

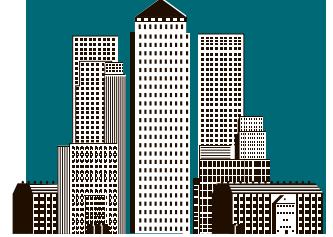
the Wharf



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FREE

MARCH 15, 2011



SUNDANCE SLATE

Festival line-up announced and there are premieres for 14 films

P18

GETTY

My vision for next chapter in Docklands revival

(And how I plan to get you there)

EXCLUSIVE
INTERVIEW

BORIS JOHNSON



Inside



Countdown to the court

We talk to two squash players looking to make their name in the Canary Wharf Classic

P10



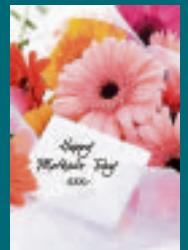
2 hours away

Cities across Europe that are perfect for a weekend getaway

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Gift ideas

to mark Mother's Day



P60

ST PATRICK'S DAY What it's all about and what to drink to make it memorable

P54



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WEATHER

18C TODAY Sunny

14C FRIDAY Partly cloudy

12C SATURDAY Light rain

9C SUNDAY Showers

12C MONDAY Mostly cloudy



TRAVEL

TUBE & DLR

DLR is suspended between Canning Town and Beckton all weekend and between Stratford International and Canning Town before 10.30am on Sunday. Jubilee line is fine.

ROADS

Blackwall Tunnel shut southbound on Sunday from 1am to 8am.

Don't even THINK of going home until 4.30pm when you can check our daily travel update

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Catch up with
The Wharf on
your computer

Agenda

The wee problem of superfluous laptop

I've finished "researching" (buying up half of Zara) and I need to "observe Wharf life" (have a little rest), so I'm "working" in Starbucks.

I have a hot chocolate in a mug the size of my head, a bottle of water and I'm considering risking the food.

There is an army of people who work in cafes across the Wharf. It's a charming throwback to the coffee houses of yore, where great works of literature, politics and philosophy were brewed.

Though today cafes are full of people checking off career development criteria lists and discussing sales forecasts. There's just one catch:

BLONDE'S EYE VIEW



ANGELA CLARKE

when you work from a coffee shop, what do you do when you need a wee?

I blame the industrial-size hot chocolate. On the Wharf you are never more than a couple of minutes from a self-flushing toilet, but I daren't leave my laptop unattended.

I might as well erect a neon sign above saying "pinch me". I could ask someone to keep an eye on it, but the nearest man has a monobrow.

I can't trust him with my Mac if he can't be trusted with tweezers. I've been blagging a comfy chair and free Wi-Fi for a few hours, I've even indulged in a little snooze; it's too

cheeky to ask the staff to watch my stuff.

My laptop will just have to come with me. Dettol. That's what I think of when I step into the toilets clutching my laptop. I probably can't bleach my keyboard without doing serious damage, but I could Dettol it.

If I'd been sensible I'd have brought my bag in and sat it inside.

Now I'm looking at the suspiciously wet floor and thinking: germs. I balance it on the baby change unit.

Taking your laptop to the bathroom is not ideal, but on the plus side, if there's no toilet roll you can send an emergency email for supplies.

Reuters' view



A gaucho is thrown off an untamed horse during the Patria Gaucha Festival in Tacuarembó, 249 miles north of Montevideo. This week's photo spread / Pages 62-63

60 Second Wharf

Boris's Docklands vision

Boris Johnson tells *The Wharf* that businesses have shown their confidence in the future of the East End. **Pages 4-5**

Bikes cycle into east

The bike hire scheme has been unveiled in the east, but critics say it is not ambitious enough.

Page 6

We will continue fight

Protesters have vowed to continue fighting The Cube development despite changes to the plan.

Page 7

Diana award winners

Young recipients of the Diana Awards came to Canary Wharf to be honoured for their contribution.

Page 9

Ready to make a mark

Two squash players are eyeing the Canary Wharf Classic as a chance to make their names.

Page 10

Obsessed with secrets

Olympic organisers have come under fire for their "secrecy" over the breakdown of ticket sales.

Page 12

Line-up for Sundance

Robert Redford has unveiled a programme of 14 films premiering at The O2 Sundance festival.

Page 18

Travel Special

Want to take advantage of the spring weather? We have a selection of 11 European cities just two hours away.

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What our writers are talking about



I imagine, that Mayor of London Boris Johnson will not be invited to word the Scottish referendum question. **Giles Broadbent**

At the Globe, it was a night where the good and the great got to deservedly take a bow. **Tabitha Ronson**

When a candidate has been in politics four decades, forgotten speeches can come back to bite. **Cllr Peter Golds**

Corrections & Clarifications

At *The Wharf*, we pride ourselves in journalism that is honest, accurate and fair.

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E-Edition



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Deirdre enjoys the height of good fortune

City Airport deal helps Irish high jumper prepare for Olympics

Rob Virtue
@wharf.co.uk

Juggling a gruelling training schedule while working part-time as a management consultant would be far from ideal preparation for the upcoming Olympics.

But it's a scenario 29-year-old Deirdre Ryan, Ireland's female high jump record holder, was facing until London City Airport stepped in with a sponsorship package.

For an athlete whose performance in the World Championships last September – where she set the national record while qualifying for this summer's Games – saw her widely acclaimed in her homeland, that would have been a travesty.

Tributes to CWG's voice of the Island

HE was the man who made sure the Isle of Dogs' voice was never forgotten throughout its transition into a global business centre.

Peter Wade went from working at the docks to being a caretaker on the Wharf construction site and then a key figure within management at Canary Wharf Group.

He died at the end of February.

Peter was originally against the development of the estate, even staging a mock funeral marking the death of the docks. But later he became head of community relations at the company.

CWG's chairman and chief executive Sir George Iacobescu said: "It was a very difficult and controversial decision for him to move from a community activist role to

While details of the City Airport deal have not been released Deirdre said it was "considerable enough" that along with 20,000 euro funding from the Irish Sports Council, she would be able to focus her attention totally on London 2012.

"It funds my training and travelling which is really quite expensive. It's a great opportunity and I'm really grateful," said Deirdre.

"Being able to train full-time is imperative as it allows me to recover better."

Deirdre Ryan
High jumper

financial services in Dublin before heading to Leverkusen in Germany for training where she joined a management consultancy, the sponsorship deal marked the end of a roller-coaster year.

It saw her tear ligaments in both ankles in separate incidents, missing around four months before returning stronger to set the Irish record in the championships in Korea.

Now her focus is on day-to-day training with the Games lingering on the horizon. Thinking ahead she said she would love to make the final of the high jump.

"It's hard to set a position target as you don't know who will be in what shape at that time," she said. "I just want to get a personal best. My aim is to get to the final and once you are there anything can happen."

"Those back home are so excited and there's lots of friends and family coming over for the Games."

"My parents said to me they will definitely have to fly to London City now."

Ticket row / Page 12

"Being able to train full-time is imperative as it allows me to recover better and concentrate fully during training sessions."

For Deirdre, who worked in

tunity and I'm really grateful," said Deirdre.

"Being able to train full-time is imperative as it allows me to recover better and concentrate fully during training sessions."

For Deirdre, who worked in



Peter Wade pictured during one of his community activities

working for a developer, yet throughout his many years of service to Canary Wharf, he never compromised his belief that the regeneration of the Docklands should provide direct benefits to local people.

"He was just as strong an advocate for the community within the company as he was an advocate for our company in the community."

Father-of-four Peter, who was 71 when he died following a short illness, was key in setting up community projects such as the Local Business Liaison Office, the Sports and Community

Programme and the Schools Programme.

He was also instrumental in pushing river transport links.

He retired from his role at CWG five years ago but carried on offering advice to the firm as a consultant.

Clr Gloria Thienel said: "Peter was very much a community man. He fought for the Island and for its identity not to lose in the development and became the voice for the community within Canary Wharf. He will be sadly missed by his Island friends and by his family."

Rob Virtue



High jumper Deirdre Ryan at London City Airport

Olympics MoD criticised over missile placements

THE Ministry of Defence has been criticised over proposals to plant surface-to-air missiles in Blackheath and Shooters Hill during the Olympics.

MP for Eltham and Plumstead Clive Efford said: "I accept there has to be security for the Olympics and inconvenience but there are proper processes to go through. I would have expected a full briefing from the minister."

999 Firefighters rescue man from blaze

FIRE crews dashed into a burning block of flats in Rotherhithe to save a man.

The blaze damaged part of the five-room flat on the 12th floor and saw the victim treated in hospital for smoke inhalation.

Four fire engines and 20 firefighters were called to the incident at Renforth Street on Sunday.

Olympics Tickets on sale for first stadium test

TICKETS for the first Olympic Stadium Test event are on sale now.

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HYPOXI

The Independent

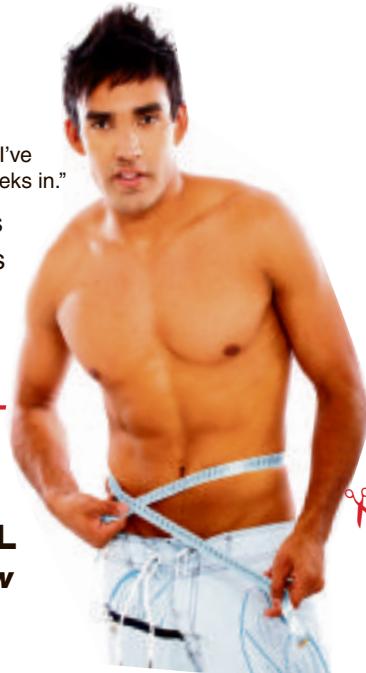
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In the footsteps of the dreamers and visionaries

THE BIG INTERVIEW

Giles Broadbent talks to Mayor of London Boris Johnson about the future of the Docklands

■ The Wharf spoke to the Mayor of London Boris Johnson high in the Citigroup building, overlooking The O2, Royal Docks and the Thames.

GB: I'm just enjoying this magnificent view.

BJ: It's one of the great views in the city. We're looking at the future. This is going to be the area where London is going to take off. Someone said to me that in 500 years' time, downtown London will be in Barking.

Can we talk about the prospect of the Royal Docks becoming a hi-tech cluster because that is a fascinating project.

We can see the Siemens pavilion, we've played a role in getting that, you can see the cable car going across from the pavilion to The O2 and by the looks of it they're making great progress.

And we can see the brownfield sites as well.

You can see massive potential. You can see Silvertown, you can see the logic of people moving there and setting up business. And that is going to be transformational. And you know about the bidding process that's going on [for the Silvertown Quays] – the three bidders and where we are with that. We just need a bit more time to look at these proposals.

What can you do as mayor to make these things happen? What can you do to persuade private capital to join the project?

With Silvertown, in a short space of time we put the land together and we opened a bidding process and since then there's been feverish activity. It's now down to three – very serious and credible – bidders

There are some amazing schemes – very different schemes but each with its own selling point. It's going to be hard to make a decision but what it shows is the confidence in the area and the absolute conviction that developers have that this is going to be a place to invest in.

Just think what a difference there's been. We're looking at an area of this city's and this country's most tragic industrial demise.

This was once the heart of the empire, those docks were built by the Victorians, colossal sea trenches, because the original London docks became too small and then in the '60s those docks too became too small and London lost shipping and population as all the attendant industries died away.

You're now seeing a rebirth with different sorts of employment, with high technology, with the opportunity for green jobs and hotels, retail, all sorts of stuff and a real conviction



on the part of business that it's going to be an attractive place to live.

My job is to create the environment where that can happen.

How much is grind and how much is vision?

It's a bit of both. You have to have the idea in the first place and then you have to engage with the process, which can be exhausting. I mean, we got £36million out of Emirates to fund

Can I rundown a checklist of transport projects and where we are with them? Are we done with the DLR now?

No. I think the DLR has got massive potential. Could you take the DLR to Bromley? Why not? Hook up that part of London, give another feed in to the City, to east London from Bromley. I think it would be very popular if we could do that.

Look at the figures of revenue costs for various modes of transport. The DLR covers 150 per cent of its revenue cost. Once you've built it, it pays for its revenue costs.

I think the Croydon tramlink just about breaks even, the Tube is 85 per cent, buses are 60 per cent. In other words buses require huge amounts of subsidy, the Tube, though it's getting better, still needs a lot of subsidy. Every DLR train that's full pays back to TfL. What's not to like?

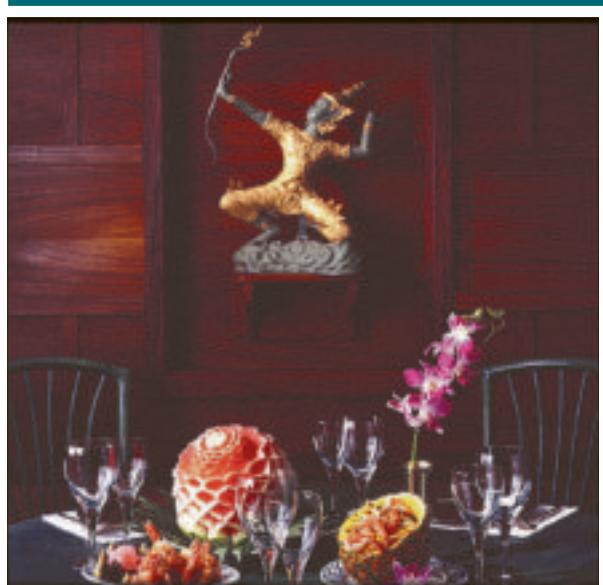
Another area of interest is the Thames as a viable east-west route. The London Assembly was critical of the River Concordat and the progress on Thames saying no-one at TfL was taking ownership of it. Again, is that something you can make happen?

I think that's unfair. Since the River Concordat, we've had a big increase in passengers very substantially. And we put the Oyster on the Clippers and, particularly during the Olympics, we're going to see a big increase.

What I can't pretend to your readers is that I truthfully see it as a highway that is going to be as successful as a terrestrial highway.

The London Assembly is saying "Boris has thrown his weight behind Boris bikes, obviously, and they're a minor means of transport. The river is another minor means of transport so why hasn't he thrown his weight behind the river?"

Well I have. I have. There's been a big increase in river transport and we want to see a bigger increase over the next four years and we'll have an ambitious programme of increasing



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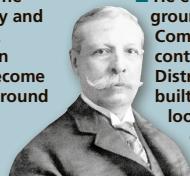
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CHARLES YERKES

■ Philadelphian Quaker Charles Yerkes, born 1837, moved to Chicago in 1883 where he developed the tramway and suburban rail systems. **■** He came to London in 1900 and decided to become involved in the Underground after riding along the route of one proposed line and surveying the

city from the summit of Hampstead Heath.

■ He established the Underground Electric Railways Company of London to take control of the Metropolitan District Railway and the part-built Baker Street and Waterloo Railway and a number of other private railway companies.



ANDREW PARSONS/ HIMAGES

'Always a balance'

river use during my next term as mayor if I get back in.

Next one. River crossings? Where are you with that? Is there funding in place or is that still to be decided?
We're pressing ahead with the consultations on Silvertown-Blackwall Two. It will be a fantastic scheme.

It will relieve congestion at Blackwall. It's sensible because it hooks up with existing transport arteries and, again, you're plugged straight into that part of London. I think it will be popular and successful. And then we're introducing a crossing at Gallions Reach for ferry traffic and a new crossing at Dartford. A lot of progress.

Is it that you're putting in place these links in anticipation of the growth of this area?

These industries will be there. Look at what the Victorians did, always remember what people like Yerkes saw.

Yerkes went to the top of Hampstead Heath and he looked out and he saw this huge expanse of parkland and forest and he thought 'there can be houses here but there can only be houses here if I built an electric railway' and he did.

History shows that it generally is a private venture that starts and goes bust and the state has to step in but in the end it is the transport

infrastructure going first that makes the difference. Without the transport, you're nowhere.

In 10 years' time Canary Wharf will be doubled in size, Wood Wharf would be thriving. Do you anticipate people being able to get here and home again using this mosaic of transport options?

Absolutely. The area is going to change. And the important thing is that the area is going to bring benefits to some of the local people who haven't seen them yet.

Four years ago one of the strongest complaints I heard was that Canary Wharf was an island of prosperity in a sea of deprivation and that can't be right. I think that is changing.

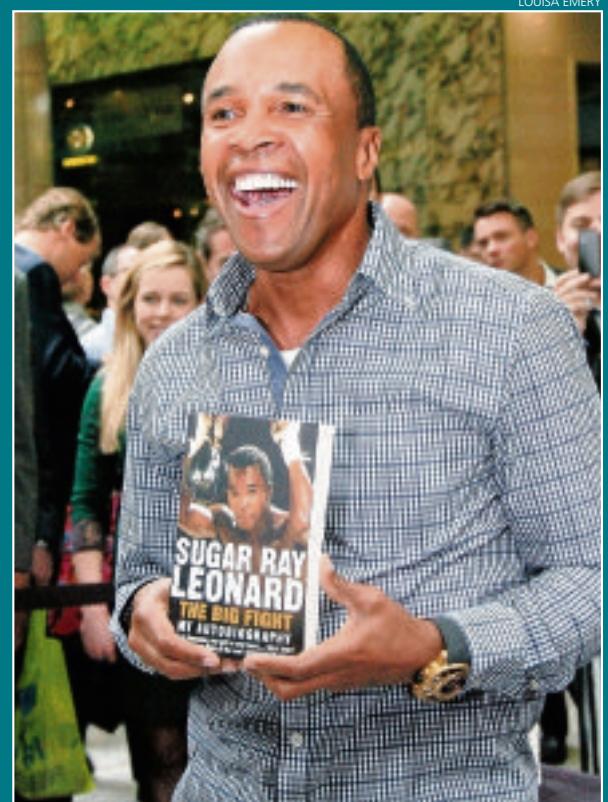
These things can take generations.

Look at what's happening to Hackney. It will happen here too. But you have got to do these things sensitively and mindfully.

When I look at some of these planning applications you have to do things in a way that takes account of the historic communities and the way of life as well. There's a balance to be struck. All the way up the Lea there are sites being developed, from the Isle of Dogs through Canning Town to Stratford and we're putting in the transport that can make it happen.

London is moving east.
Boris bikes arrive / Page 6

The Mayor of London outlines his plans for transport in a speech at the Citigroup building before talking to *The Wharf*



Fight fans turned out in force on Tuesday to greet boxing legend Sugar Ray Leonard who was promoting his new autobiography *The Big Fight* at Waterstone's in Jubilee Place

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City status failure

TOWER Hamlets has failed in its bid for City status.

The borough was beaten by Chelmsford, Perth and St Asaph who have been awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee civic honour.

The borough's bid was backed by Canary Wharf Group and a number of businesses in the area.

Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg said: "The standard of application was very high and those who missed out should not be downhearted. I hope the competition has given the residents of all the places which applied a sense of civic pride, of collective ownership."

Partners sign up

NEWHAM Council and Bouygues Development have moved a step closer to realising the agreed terms of their Principal Development Agreement (PDA) for the £600million Canning Town Centre scheme.

The PDA was unveiled at MIPIM, a major development expo in Cannes last week. The deal, with Bouygues Development and partner One Housing Group, will form part of Newham's £3.7billion Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration Programme.

The six hectare site will reconnect the areas north and south of the A13 flyover with homes and shops.



Mayor of London Boris Johnson rides into Roman Road Market to launch the expansion

Boris rides in to launch bike hire scheme in east

But critics say he lacks ambition in pushing cycles as the way ahead

Louisa.Emery
@wharf.co.uk

Boris Johnson rode into Tower Hamlets to launch the east London extension of his cycle hire scheme.

The Mayor of London was greeted with cheers and heckles as he cycled to the site of one of the new docking stations at Roman Road Market in Bow on Thursday.

He said: "This is a fantastic scheme for London, it creates jobs and helps the economy. Tower Hamlets Council has joined the party with a contribution of £2million and this is a wise decision as it will be a real benefit to the neighbourhood."

The expansion means the scheme now covers 65sq km of the capital with 2,300 additional bikes and 4,800 more docking stations.

Areas added include Canary Wharf, Isle of Dogs, Wapping, Poplar, Stepney Green, Mile End and Bow.

Mr Johnson said: "Now there is a huge opportunity to expand south of the river, all we need is more money from Barclays on top of the £50million they have already given us."

Members of the London Assembly have pledged their

support for the scheme but have highlighted concerns.

London Assembly member and Green party mayoral candidate Jenny Jones said: "This is great news for east London but I am concerned at the mayor's lack of ambition. Londoners won't be able to cycle to the Olympic Park and they will only have a third of the bikes available compared to their Parisian counterparts.

"If the mayor is serious about



Boris joins the chain gang

his target of a million extra journeys made by bike every day, then a bike hire scheme which only generates an extra 40,000 journeys a day is well short of what London needs."

Leader of the Liberal Democrat London Assembly Group Caroline Pidgeon said: "We need to improve and expand the scheme, get new bikes on our roads and make our roads much safer—but most importantly we must make the capital even more attractive to visitors."

scheme fun and attractive for a wider range of people.

"Instead of every bike looking as if it is the property of Barclays Bank let's get some limited edition bikes to celebrate some incredible events taking place in London."

"A decade ago we had 50 London buses painted gold to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee so why not have some new bikes to mark this year's Diamond Jubilee?"

Concerns surrounding Barclays' sponsorship of the scheme have been raised by London Assembly member John Biggs.

Mr Biggs said: "So far Transport for London seems to have taken an ad hoc approach to sponsorship, which could expose it to unnecessary risk if a sponsor suffered serious reputational damage."

"TfL has acknowledged the need for a new single policy on sponsorship but it must also take a more consistent and transparent approach so Londoners can be sure any future deals are in the best interests of the capital."

Mr Johnson said: "Some people are always going to be opposed to the idea but I am confident we can do a first class job."

"Our wonderful blue bikes have changed the face of London and introduced a new form of public transport that has eased getting around our great city for thousands of Londoners and made the capital even more attractive to visitors."

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Our protest over Cube will go on

Rob.Virtue
@wharf.co.uk

CAMPAIGNERS against plans for a development in Virginia Quay have vowed to continue their protests despite changes to the proposal.

Last month, London Thames Gateway Development Corporation's planning committee deferred the decision in order to seek legal advice on whether it has grounds to refuse the 12-storey application by Cube Developments containing 26 homes.

That saw the applicant make amendments to the plans, which have met with opposition from both the community in Poplar and from Tower Hamlets Council.

Among the changes are for six one-bedroom flats to be adapted to three two-bed apartments. There have also been alterations proposed to the access of the building.

Campaigners are against the proposal in principle and are planning to continue their opposition.

Councillor Peter Golds said both he and fellow Tower Hamlets representative Gloria Thienel will be at the LTGDC meeting in April and are also planning to express their disapproval in the consultation.

W

What's wrong with the plan?

"This puts pressure on schools as well as medical and transport facilities."

Cllr Peter Golds

"It's yet more development in an area that's overdeveloped," said Cllr Golds. "This puts pressure on schools, as well as medical and transport facilities. The DLR is packed to bursting point."

Last December Tower Hamlets Council's development committee voted unanimously to support the community's opposition to the application.

Meanwhile, at last week's planning meeting of the LTGDC, the proposals for Minoco Wharf were approved.

London Mayor Boris Johnson now has two weeks to make a final decision on the huge scheme in the Royal Docks. The 266,500sq m proposal includes 3,000 homes ranging from studio flats to town houses and also has shops, restaurants and office space.



The Princess Royal, the Chancellor of the University of London, officially opened ArtsTwo

Princess opens QM's £21m arts building

THE Princess Royal was the VIP guest at Queen Mary University of London on Friday where she opened a new £21million humanities building.

ArtsTwo has been nominated for three architectural awards and houses a 300-seat lecture theatre that will be used by the university and the community.

Pupils from Tower Hamlets school St Paul's Way Trust greeted the princess – chancellor of the university – as she arrived at Mile End Road.

She was shown around the facility by vice-chancellor Professor Geoffrey Cossick and met a number of humanities academics and undergraduates.

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Celebrities' stories help hospice bid

Giles Broadbent
@wharf.co.uk

1 A CELEBRITY couple are sharing their life-changing moments to boost a hospice's fundraising campaign.

Downton Abbey actor Jim Carter and his actress wife Imelda Staunton are backing Richard House Children's Hospice's Harry's Million campaign.

The couple have filmed short pieces describing the moments that changed their lives.

Jim, who stars as Carson the butler in the ITV1 soap, said: "My life-changing moment was on the beach in Brighton in 1970.

"I was at the University of Sussex at the time and in the summer I was doing children's theatre on the beach. I had such a good time and I decided that's what I wanted to do."

Imelda, who is a patron of the children's hospice, said: "I've had a lot of wonderful moments in my life but my life-changing moment was the new life of my daughter.

"You have a child and you stop thinking about yourself and you think about them."

Health

Hospital gets new £1.4m CT scanner

2 NEWHAM Hospital is to get £1.4million for a new CT scanner as part of a nationwide funding boost for new equipment.

More than £330million will be spent on "state of the art" NHS equipment and buildings, Prime Minister David Cameron announced.

Health Secretary Andrew Lansley explained that money saved in central capital budgets means government is able to spend on improving NHS facilities.

"This will mean that more patients in Newham will benefit from the latest world class equipment," he said.

Event

Bugsy Malone will come alive

3 HISTORIC Limehouse venue The Troxy is to be transformed into prohibition era Chicago for a series of showings of cult classic *Bugsy Malone*.

Organiser Future Cinema wants to encourage Tower Hamlets residents to come along to any one of more than 30 performances and is offering a "pay what you can" option.

The film, which stars a young Jodie Foster, tells the story of a group of gangsters all played by children, firing splurge instead of bullets.

Running from March 16 to April 14 the event will feature child friendly entertainment during matinees. Go to ticketline.co.uk.



Olympics

Venues will cope in a drought, says EA

4 THE Olympic venues will be able to cope in a drought, the Environment Agency has said.

The venues have a "high level of resilience", says the EA, which has been working with the Olympic Delivery Authority since 2007.

The announcement came as drought measures – including hosepipe bands – were introduced across the south east.

A supply network for non-drinking

or non-potable water has been installed across the Olympic Park to cover events, irrigation and cleaning as part of a drive towards sustainable sources.

The EA said: "For most venues potable water is the backup supply and in some cases borehole supply can be used.

"In [some] cases we could be asked to allow water to be supplied from the River Lea."

Court

Brother charged with torso murder

5 THE brother of a former *EastEnders* actress appeared in the dock on Monday accused of murdering his sister and dumping her torso in a canal in Bethnal Green.

Gemma McCluskie's headless and limbless body was discovered floating close to London's Broadway Market last week after she had attended a hospital event. Her 35-year-old brother Tony confirmed his name, his Hackney address and date of birth during a one-and-a-half minute appearance at Thames Magistrates' Court.



Court

Man lured police to a gang beating

6 A MEMBER of a gang which lured police to a fake call and set upon them has been jailed for three years.

Mushahid Ali, 23, of Back Church Lane in Shadwell was sentenced at Wood Green Crown Court last Wednesday.

Police were called to an address in Christian Street in December to a report of a domestic incident. By the time they realised the address was bogus, they were surrounded by youths who attacked them.

Ali was spotted fleeing the scene and was arrested, during the course of which he headbutted a Police Community Support Officer.

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Youngsters honoured for values Diana championed

Louisa.Emery
@wharf.co.uk

INSPIRATIONAL young people gathered at Barclays head office in Canary Wharf on Monday to be honoured for their contribution to society.

The Diana Awards, presented in memory of the late princess, is given to children who have made a difference to the lives of others.

Diana Award CEO Maggie Turner said: "The award was set up by the UK memorial committee at the time of Diana's death and I think this is the one she would most like to be remembered by."

The award is for children and young people who go that extra mile for the community without seeking any recognition or award for themselves.

"Children are nominated for volunteering, fundraising, acting as mentors for anti-bullying campaigns and for supporting friends or family going through a challenging time."

Jenna Spiers, 17, received the Diana champion fundraiser award.



From left, Keiran Woodcock, Robert Wilson, Jenna Spiers, retired rugby player Ben Cohen, William Thomas and Natalie Woolard. Top right: Princess Diana. Above right: Maggie Turner, chief executive of the Diana Award

The Scottish teenager has raised £750,000 for a charity set up in memory of her twin brother Calum. Calum's Cabin offers respite for families with children suffering from terminal illness.

She said: "I am really honoured to receive the Diana Award. I take great pleasure in being able to give children and families the quality time they so desperately need and I know my brother would be thrilled so many people have benefited from his cabin."

The award has five categories open to individuals or groups aged between none and 18.

Maggie said: "Young people are nominated by teachers, social workers, churches and youth leaders."

"We have giving out 75 awards today and, on average, personally hand out 300 a year although we would like to be able to give every child an award."

International rugby player Ben Cohen presented the certificates. Now retired from the sport, he is the

chairman of the Ben Cohen Standup Foundation which tackles bullying and homophobia in sport.

He said: "I am delighted to present the Diana Award to inspirational young people who are committed to making the world a kinder and better place."

"I am passionate about standing up to bullying and erasing homophobia from sport and it is wonderful to see that the Diana Anti-Bullying Award recognises the young people who are also dedicated to this cause."



Court Gun-carrying drug dealer behind bars

A DRUG dealer who was found with 49 wraps of heroin and a shotgun has been jailed for 10 years.

Officers stopped Jeffrey Anamo, 21, of Hameway in East Ham, while he was carrying the loaded gun and body armour in Woolwich Manor Way, Beckton.

A search of his home found the wraps of heroin. Police say the gun was likely to be used to commit gang-related crimes.

Anamo pleaded guilty to possession of a firearm and the drugs, with intent to supply, and was sentenced at Inner London Crown Court last Tuesday.

Council Shamed councillor loses her position

TOWER Hamlets Council has confirmed disgraced councillor Shelia Akhtar will lose her position after she was jailed for benefit fraud.

The independent who had a seat in the Spitalfields and Banglatown ward was sentenced to three and a half months in prison after claiming housing and tax benefits at time same as she sublet her flat. A by-election will be held.

Comment / Page 52

London Southend Airport... under 100 paces from train station to our new fly-through terminal!



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Sport



Why this moment inspired me to be a Paralympian

PAGE 68

City firms go for glory

CITY financial firm Ernst & Young is calling on the experience of former World Squash No.2 Peter Marshall to help book a place in the final of the Canary Wharf & Square Mile Corporate Challenge.

The challenge acts as a side event to the showpiece Squash classic featuring many of the world's top players.

More than 60 City workers have been battling it out for a place in the final, which takes place on the glass show court, during the week of the World Tour event.

Ernst & Young will face the Financial Services Authority (FSA) in the semi-final round, joining Credit Suisse and accountancy firm PricewaterhouseCoopers to make up the final four in the competition with the grand final on Friday, March 23.

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Adrian Grant, left, and Joe Lee outside the East Wintergarden where they will play in the squash classic

I'm ready to make mark on home turf

SQUASH

Left-hander says he wants to show City pals what he can do

Rob Virtue
[@wharf.co.uk](http://wharf.co.uk)

Adrian Grant is looking to upset the squash world's top 10 when he takes to the court in Canary Wharf's annual tournament.

The 31-year-old left-hander from Greenwich, ranked 15 in the world, will have his work cut out against the likes of the number one James Willstrop, top seed and last year's winner Nick Matthew, and a host of emerging Egyptian talents.

But Grant, who kicks off with a first round tie against a qualifier – yet to

be decided – is confident of going all the way.

"I've been playing well recently so my aim is to get to the final," said Grant. "I'm not here to make up the numbers, I'm here to prove a point."

"I don't care who else is in the final. I'm just determined to get there and pick up a trophy. In squash anything can happen. Major upsets often take place in the first round. That's what makes these tournaments so exciting."

Grant last performed at the Canary Wharf Squash Classic four years ago, opting for overseas tournaments in recent years.

However, he's been tempted back by the prospect of appearing in front of friends and taking on the world's best.

"I've had a bit of hassle from friends who work in the City saying they want to see me but it's also fantastic to play in this event because it's not often you get so many of the world's



James Willstrop returns to the tournament as the world No.1

top sportsmen in one area – and just 10 minutes from where I live."

Young hopeful Joe Lee enters this year's tournament as the only wildcard and faces a tough first round tie against fourth seed Mohamed El Shorbagy of Egypt.

Lee, 22, who first watched the tournament when he was 15, said: "If I were to beat him it would be the biggest win of my career so far. I would be over the moon. I want to put in a good performance and show I can perform on this kind of stage."

The Canary Wharf Squash Classic runs from March 19–23. Go to cwsquash.com for more information.

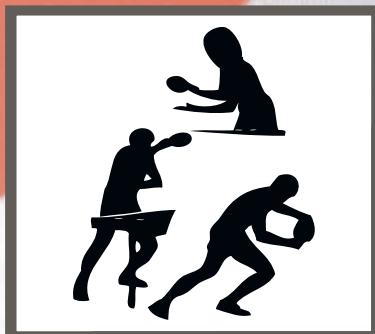
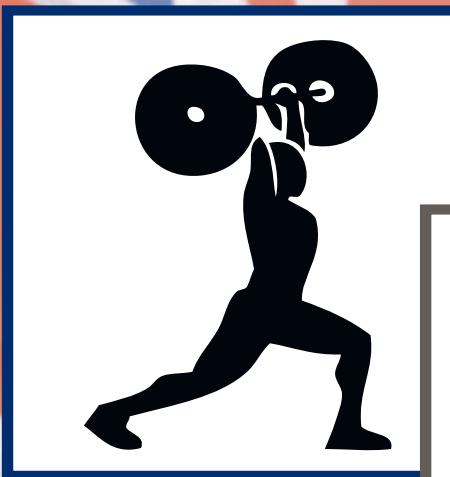
Barker who was a finalist last year.

■ But the Brits are up against a quartet of strong Egyptians: Mohamed El Shorbagy, his younger brother Marwan, Tarek Momen and Ali Anwar Reda.

■ The international contingent also sees the German number one Simon Rosner and top Indian player Saurav Ghosal.

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the Wharf

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NO AGENCIES PLEASE

Mother's Day special - P60-61



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<http://www.gatehouseschool.co.uk>

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News



Not put out

Fake protesters stage an attack during a training session at the Metropolitan Police Training School for the Olympic Torch Security Team who will be protecting the torch bearers and Olympic flame during their progress through the UK.

'Obsessed with secrecy' over Games tickets

OLYMPICS

City Hall clash over breakdown of sales figures

Rob Virtue
[@wharf.co.uk](http://wharf.co.uk)



Olympic organiser Locog was accused of being "obsessed with secrecy" at a heated debate at City Hall last week.

The group's chairman Lord Sebastian Coe and chief executive Paul Deighton appeared in front of assembly members to give an update on the progress in preparing for 2012. They were attacked by Baroness Dee Doocey who slammed the pair for refusing to give a breakdown on the prices of the seven million tickets already sold.

"In 2011 you said you couldn't [give the information] because of data protection but we didn't want details of people who bought them," said Baroness Doocey, who chairs the City Hall committee, which scrutinises Games progress.

What was said to Locog?

"What are you trying to hide? Why can't we get the information?"

Baroness Doocey

"Then you said it was down to client confidentiality but we didn't want the details of sponsors.

"What are you trying to hide? Why can't we get the information?"

After the duo said they could not provide a breakdown on the tickets but insisted overall there would be 2.5million tickets sold at £20 or under, Baroness Doocey responded:

"Why can't you give us a breakdown of the seven million tickets sold with a note saying this is not the final figure?"

"You're obsessed with secrecy and I don't understand why."

Lord Coe replied: "I'm not going to divert the attention of my team who still have four million tickets to sell and revenue targets to meet because that is how we fund the Games. I'm not going to take them off that focus to work on every single client group for every single session."

Assembly member John Biggs was also dissatisfied with a response to his question asking whether just 36 per cent of 100 metres final tickets were for sale to the public.

Mr Deighton said this was closer to 50 per cent when press tickets, seats not being sold due to being blocked by big screens, and those with views obstructed by cameras were taken out.

Meanwhile, both Mr Deighton and Lord Coe said they had not seen the *Dispatches* TV documentary which was critical of some areas of the ticket sales process.

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Travel

Want a quick escape? We've handpicked 11 European destinations just two hours away

P57-59

Mother's Day

Stuck for gift ideas? We trawl the shops looking for the quirky and the thoughtful

P60-61

£1,000 on Nandos? It's time for better budget

THE IDCF charity, which aims to relieve poverty in Tower Hamlets, has handed out two grants to help residents manage their money better.

Grants of £17,000 and £10,000 have been awarded to the Shoreditch-based financial and enterprise education charity MyBnk and Tower Hamlets Citizens Advice Bureau to run money management and business workshops.

From the girl who was shocked to discover she spent over £1,000 on Nandos a year, to the boy who just wants to emulate his parents, MyBnk helped 20 young people from across Poplar and Bow understand how money affects their decisions.

Shahina, 17, said: "I had hardly a clue about banking and borrowing before this, I found it very useful."

As well as money lessons, MyBnk will also create real life social entrepreneurs in enterprise challenges using real money and in real marketplaces.

Tower Hamlets Citizens Advice Bureau is delivering information sessions at community venues across Bow, Poplar and the Isle of Dogs from Easter.

IDCF director Tracey Betts said: "By working with other funders, IDCF has been able to pool funds along with its own to offer a programme of practical support."

Running for IDCF / Page 67

Jay Z will join a number of top names on the Hackney bill

GETTY



Jay Z heads to Hackney for free gig

RAP star Jay Z is to headline BBC Radio One's free Hackney Weekend 2012.

Jay Z, married to Beyoncé and recently a new dad to daughter Blue Ivy, joins Tinie Tempah, Jessie J, Ed Sheeran and Leona Lewis on the bill.

The headliner for the second night of the June 23-24 event is still to be announced.

The station is giving away 100,000 tickets and aims to do more than just stage a concert and move on.

Event director Jason Carter told The Wharf at the recent unveiling of the BBC's Olympic input that workshops would be held to encourage East End youngsters to learn more about the music business and the site of the concert would be dressed by young local artists.

Revealing the name of the headline act, he said: "Our goal was to deliver the most ambitious and exciting event in Radio One's history and with the artists already announced I think we've achieved that, but to now add the world's biggest hip hop icon, Jay-Z, to the line-up, is fantastic news."

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What's on

GIG

The Boardwalk Drifters

Boisdale Canary Wharf



If you get misty eyed at the sound of soulful tunes such as *Saturday Night At The Movies*, *Come On Over To My Place* and *Under The Boardwalk* then book in for a night at Boisdale this Saturday.

One of last year's most popular acts, The Boardwalk Drifters, are returning to the Cabot Place. The foursome's tribute to the R&B band emanating from New York City is one of the most impressive on the circuit.

It won't just be Drifters hits that get an airing – the Wharf crowd will be treated to a host of other material. ■ Mar 17, 9pm, £15-35, boisdale.co.uk.

ART

Sir Anthony Caro

Jubilee Park



An influential sculptor who began his career as an assistant to Henry Moore is showing a collection of work in Jubilee Park this spring.

Sir Anthony Caro is known for his large abstract structures, which were a radical departure when he exhibited them at his career defining Whitechapel Gallery show in 1963. Fifty years later he continues to produce innovative work. Made in his signature style, the collection in Canary Wharf is made of steel – rusted and varnished – reflecting the structures that make up the estate. ■ Until May 25, FREE, canarywharf.com.

STAGE

Children get a taste of festival to come

GREENWICH Theatre is joining forces with Greenwich and Lewisham Young People's Theatre to bring a children's drama festival to the borough.

Greenwich Children's Theatre Festival will take place in various venues from the end of the month and 350 school children have already been given a taste of what to expect when a touring company dropped into the town last week.

Forest Forge performed *The Phoenix And The Carpet*, based on Nesbit's classic tale at Greenwich Theatre.

It tells the story of four children who are whisked off on fantastic

INTERVIEW

Gilbert and George tell us why they've been stealing east London bill posters

Louisa.Emery
@wharf.co.uk

Whitechapel's most enigmatic artistic duo were at the White Cube in Bermondsey last week to launch their new show *London Pictures*.

Gilbert and George, whose daily walk takes in streets well trodden since Dickensian times, spoke about the motives behind their largest ever series of work and gave tips on distraction theft to make Fagin proud.

Newspaper bill posters relieved from outside newsagents reporting on London life form the basis of their latest creation.

George said: "At first we thought we would ask the shopkeepers to keep last week's posters for us but they became very suspicious so we had to steal them."

"When we are out walking arm in arm together one goes into the shop to buy some chewing gum and the other removes the poster."

"We were actually caught by an over enthusiastic policeman but I told him we were doing a project at my school about anti-social behaviour – I set myself up as a teacher."

Over six years the pair amassed a collection of 3,712 posters and it wasn't until they put them all together that they realised what they had.

G e o r g e said: "When we laid them all out on the studio floor we

Looking through their magic eyes



Gilbert and George, inset and left, with their work *Money, 2011*



were overwhelmed, almost sickened that we have all allowed

the world to become what it is. These posters have two purposes – to sell newspapers but also the reality. It's a heavy price to pay for freedom.

"T h e r e are countries where these words wouldn't be allowed on posters."

The duo said

what struck them most was their ephemeral nature – one day big news and the next forgotten.

Gilbert said: "We realised the biggest subject was murder, then money then sex. We started seeing extraordinary stuff that we would never be able to address in our work otherwise."

London Pictures contains 292 pictures, 72 of which are being shown across White Cube's three London galleries following the show's premiere in Hong Kong.

Gilbert said: "We believe we are forming life and that the world will be a little bit different because we have made these pictures. We are always looking for the moral dimension – when we took pictures of lace curtains we realised they are the house barks."

George said: "Having this exhibition in 2012 was an accident. Looking at it

you can see why we weren't asked to do an Olympic poster."

Gilbert said: "We don't believe in the Games. We don't believe in the best. We close ourselves off and make our own vision. Artists have magic eyes."

The exhibition is free to attend and the duo specified how it was to be marketed. They said they wanted everyone to be able to come and see it but weren't planning on taking the works out of the gallery space.

George said: "You wouldn't get more people reading books if you put them out on the pavement. People have to make the conscious decision to come in. One day there will be a last Gilbert and George picture but we are optimistic. These pictures are celebrating life."

London Pictures, White Cube, until May 12, FREE, whitecube.com.

STAGE

Stars From The Commitments

The O2 arena

The cast of the *Stars From The Commitments* are performing at The O2 arena this weekend to mark the film's 21st anniversary.

The group, which includes two of the actors from the movie, will be performing at the North Greenwich venue on St Patrick's Day. Expect more than just the soul classics.

■ Mar 17, 6.30pm, £51.25-£55.25, theo2.co.uk.

Read on »

Celebrate St Patrick's Day with Irish flavours

Food / Pages 54-55



Forest Forge perform *The Phoenix And The Carpet* at Greenwich Theatre

adventures after discovering a glowing golden egg containing the phoenix.

Greenwich Theatre director James Haddrell said: "There is something magical about transporting a theatre full of children off on an adventure which they can share, and talk about afterwards.

"Lots of the children had never been to see a live performance like this before, and introducing them to the wonders of live theatre is part of what Greenwich Theatre exists for." Greenwich Children's Theatre Festival, various venues, Mar 31-April 14, greenwichtheatre.org.uk.





*How will your travel be
affected during the Games?*

27 July – 12 Aug and 29 Aug – 9 Sept

Find out which stations will be busier and how to get around more easily at GetAheadoftheGames.com and follow us on Twitter @GAOTG

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What's On



WIN film tickets

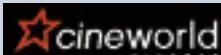
★ Fancy a free trip to the cinema? Cineworld West India Quay has teamed up with *The Wharf* to offer a pair of tickets and a *Contraband* goodie bag to our winner.

To be in with a chance of winning, answer this question: **Mark Wahlberg** played this in *The Fighter*:

- a. A boxer
- b. A wrestler
- c. A cage fighter.

Email your answer to newsdesk@wharf.co.uk with **Cineworld** in the subject line. The closing date for entries is **March 23**.

Include your name and full postal address and the tickets will be posted to you.



Two Days in New York

Director: Julie Delpy

■ Marion has broken up with Jack and lives in New York with their child. A visit from her family, the background of her new boyfriend, an ex-boyfriend who her sister is now dating, and her new exhibition make for an explosive mix.

Line-up for O2 Sundance

FESTIVAL

Giles Broadbent
[@wharf.co.uk](http://wharf.co.uk)

Organisers of Sundance London, the film and music festival heading for The O2 at the end of April, have unveiled a 14-strong line-up of feature films that will make their UK premieres.

The narrative and documentary flicks were first shown in January at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, under the auspices of Sundance Institute founder Robert Redford.

He said: "I welcome the opportunity to see how people in the UK experience these films."

"While they are American productions they speak to universal experiences and global challenges."

He added: "Sundance London also is the perfect opportunity to continue our long-time commitment to growing a broader international community around new voices and new perspectives."

Director of the Sundance Film Festival John Cooper said: "Sundance



London grew out of our desire to help American independent filmmakers expand their reach, and we are happy that these 14 filmmakers are joining us on this adventure.

Their participation has helped us to not only create a programme for Sundance London that reflects the diversity of our film festival in Park City, but also that helps build an enduring legacy of American stories that speak to international audiences."

Alex Hill, chief finance and strategy officer of AEG Europe, owners of host venue The O2, said: "All at The O2 are very excited that the inaugural Sundance London film and music festival is nearly upon us."

The 14 films which Sundance Institute is bringing to London reflect the strength, depth and breadth of American independent cinema that showcased earlier in the year at the Sundance Film Festival.

"They complement an exciting music component with performances from Tricky and Placebo, and our opening night event *An Evening With Robert Redford and T Bone Burnett*."

Also on offer to Sundance London audiences will be opportunities to attend panels and hear guest speakers talk about the part they play in making films, documentaries and the role of music in modern cinema.

Forthcoming announcements include the festival's short film programme, special events and additional music performers.

Go to sundance-london.com. Tickets will be on sale in early April and the festival itself takes place April 26-29.



Chasing Ice

Director: Jeff Orlowski

■ Science, spectacle and human passion mix in this cinematic portrait as National Geographic photographer James Balog captures time-lapse photography of glaciers over several years providing tangible visual evidence of climate change.



The House I Live In

Director: Eugene Jarecki

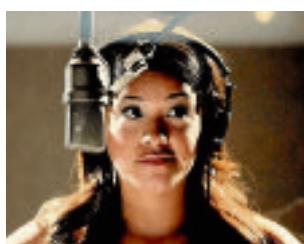
■ For over 40 years, the war on drugs has accounted for 45million arrests, made America the world's largest jailer and damaged poor communities. Yet, drugs are cheaper, purer and more available today than ever. Where did it go wrong?



LUV

Director: Sheldon Candis

■ An orphaned 11-year-old boy is forced to face the unpleasant truth about his beloved uncle during one harrowing day in the streets of Baltimore. The cast includes Common, Michael Rainey Jr, Danny Glover and Charles S Dutton.



Filly Brown

Directors: Youssef Delara, Michael D Olmos

■ A hip hop-driven drama about a Mexican girl who rises to fame and consciousness as she copes with the incarceration of her mother. The cast includes Lou Diamond Phillips and Edward James Olmos.



Finding North

Directors: Kristi Jacobson, Lori Silverbush

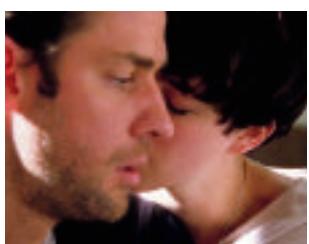
■ A crisis of hunger looms in the US and is not limited to the poverty stricken. Can a return to policies of the '70s save the future? Features interviews with activists including Jeff Bridges.



For Ellen

Director: So Yong Kim

■ A struggling musician takes an overnight long-distance drive in order to fight his estranged wife for custody of their young daughter. The cast includes Paul Dano, Jon Heder, Jena Malone, Margarita Levieva and Shay Mandigo.



Nobody Walks

Director: Ry Russo-Young

■ Martine, a young artist from New York, is invited into the home of a hip, liberal LA family for a week. Her presence unravels the family's carefully maintained status quo, and a mess of sexual and emotional entanglements ensues.



An Oversimplification Of Her Beauty

Director: Terence Nance

■ A quixotic young man humorously courses live action and various animated landscapes as he tries to understand himself after a mystery girl stands him up. The cast includes the director, Terence Nance.

**Liberal Arts**

Director: Josh Radnor

■ Bookish and newly single Jesse Fisher returns to his alma mater for his favourite professor's retirement dinner. A chance meeting with Zibby – a precocious classical music-loving sophomore – awakens in him long-dormant feelings of possibility and connection. The cast includes Josh Radnor (*How I Met Your Mother*), Elizabeth Olsen and Allison Janney.

**The Queen of Versailles**

Director: Lauren Greenfield
■ Jackie and David were constructing the biggest house in America – a 90,000sq ft palace inspired by Versailles – when their timeshare empire falters due to the economic crisis. Their story reveals the virtues and flaws of the American Dream.

**Safety Not Guaranteed**

Director: Colin Trevorrow

■ A trio of magazine employees investigate a classified ad seeking a partner for time travel. One employee develops feelings for the compelling loner and seeks to discover what he's up to. Winner of the Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award.

**Shut Up And Play The Hits**

Directors: Dylan Southern, Will Lovelace
■ A film that follows LCD Soundsystem front man James Murphy over a 48-hour period, from the day of their final gig to the morning after, the official end of one of the best live bands in the world.

**Under African Skies**

Director: Joe Berlinger

■ Paul Simon returns to South Africa to explore the incredible journey of his historic *Graceland* album, including the political backlash he sparked for allegedly breaking the UN cultural boycott of South Africa, designed to end apartheid.

Junkyard wars as Farraday puts his big plan into gear

SCREEN**Contraband**

(15) 110mins

So we start with the little brother messing up his drug smuggling gig, dumping his candy into the sea and getting himself into hock with some very angry bad guys.

Big bro (in-law) Chris Farraday (Mark Wahlberg) has left the smuggling game behind to go legit with wife Kate (Kate Beckinsale) and his two boys.

But little bro Andy (Caleb Landry Jones) faces retribution from wildman Tim Briggs (Giovanni Ribisi) unless he makes up the loss.

Chris, who never lightly gave up smuggling, agrees to step in and do one last mega-job.

"You gotta do what you gotta do," says his dad. "Family is family."

See what it is yet? That's right. *Gone In 60 Seconds* only with container ships instead of Ferraris.

That's where we're heading with this re-imagining of the Icelandic mini-hit *Reykjavik-Rotterdam*.

But something happens along the way, not particularly noticeable amid the brutal swarfsa-pumping action (set to a blistering New Orleans soundtrack).

Those European roots begin to show and the sensibilities of director Baltasar Kormakur take over. Where Hollywood would head right, towards a bit of stylish but stay-inside-the-lines action, Balt goes left.

Forget *Gone In 60 Seconds*, he has *Heat* in his sights with its epic, sweeping, intrusive crime-scape – and perhaps a touch of *The Italian Job* for its convoluted caper feel.

It's a race against time, multiple obstacles, many enemies and some wild improbabilities.

Wahlberg plays the humble, blue collar Everyman with his usual



Chris Farraday (Mark Wahlberg) checks over his counterfeit notes

subdued charm and Balt keeps the camera swirling inside plenty of big metal places like this is a Channel Five documentary on Megasmeths. (Director of photography is Barry Ackroyd, who made *United 93* and *The Hurt Locker* look so authentic).

The film doesn't match Balt's ambitions for it and there is a degree of convolution to make everything work but the brutal action is on an industrial scale and any resemblance to any easy-on-the-eye Hollywood slick-fests is purely coincidental.

Giles Broadbent

Our verdict

Ambitious crime epic makes container ships look sexy.

★★★☆☆

SCREEN**We Bought A Zoo**

(PG) 124min



Feel-good director Cameron Crowe dramatises a story based on the experiences of Benjamin Mee who bought a dilapidated zoo and set about reviving its fortunes.

The real zoo was the Dartmoor Zoological Park but the action has been transferred to California and Mee is played by Matt Damon, a widower with two children who react in different ways to his plan.

Scarlett Johansson plays the zookeeper – and love interest.

★★★☆☆

SCREEN**21 Jump Street**

(15) 109mins



The pairing of Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum is unlikely and that is the joke behind this buzzy action comedy which sees the youthful looking duo join up to the force and to go undercover in a local high school.

Schmidt (Hill) and Jenko (Tatum) risk their lives to investigate a deadly drugs gang and neither of them expected to face the terror and anxiety of school life all over again.

★★★☆☆

SCREEN**The Devil Inside**

(15) 83mins



A critical mauling awaited this outing which blends the hyperbolic and contorted action of exorcist movies with the modern penchant for "found footage true stories".

Some 20 years after Maria Rossi murdered three people, her daughter Isabella seeks to understand the truth about what happened that night. She recruits two young exorcists who use new methods that brings them face to face with pure evil.

★★★☆☆

Comment

GREEN LIVING

By Andrew Williams

Oxfam gift can help out other mums

Last week we celebrated International Women's Day and this week it is Mothering Sunday, both powerful reminders not just of the positive role that women play in today's society, but also of the road we still have to travel for women across the globe to gain equality and respect.

While protests such as the Arab Spring and the uprising in Syria have seen women on the front line of the demonstrations, too often once the dust settles they have been relegated to the background.

And as we celebrate the special mums in our lives it's worth remembering the impact that great women have had on the environmental movement.

Last year we sadly lost Wangari Matthai, the Kenyan environmentalist and Nobel Prize winner who founded the Green Belt Movement. The first African woman to receive the Nobel Prize changed the world.

Closer to home, women act



Oxfam can offer some great Mothers' Day gift ideas

as CEOs for a number of leading charities and environmental pressure groups, including Harriet Lamb at the Fairtrade Foundation, Barbara Stocking at Oxfam and Kate Allen at Amnesty International. Their impact across the sustainable spectrum has been undeniable.

If you're thinking of a gift for your mum this weekend you could decide to honour the courage and bravery of women around the globe by choosing a gift that reflects the ongoing struggle for equality.

The Oxfam Good Gifts catalogue has a variety of touching presents with a focus on promoting self-sufficiency among women and their children in the developing world.



Do you or your company have an environmentally friendly product or service you'd like featured in the column? Let us know by contacting Seventeen, a sustainable alternative for your event management needs, at andrew@seventeenevents.co.uk



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Shelling out for disgraced councillor

After two convictions for benefit fraud and an ongoing investigation for illegal subletting, Shelina Akhter is no longer a Tower Hamlets councillor.

Her seat was declared vacant when she declined to appeal against her prison sentence.

However, she continued to be paid a council allowance while in Holloway. Spitalfields ward will now have the opportunity to elect a new councillor. However, the election will be held just before the mayoral election, thereby costing additional money. Perhaps our mayor and his

POLITICS NOTES & VIEWS

Peter Golds
Conservative, Blackwall & Cubitt Town

supporters will explain the reason for this latest waste of our money, which would be saved if there were a combined poll?

It is safe to say that when a candidate has been in politics for four decades long forgotten speeches can come back to bite.

The London mayoral election has seen Labour's Ken Livingstone haunted by recent speeches as well as previous actions.

It may have impressed a certain audience to call for the vote to be withdrawn for those not paying full tax on all income. Unfortunately, if at the same time, you are funnelling a substantial income into a company to reduce your personal tax burden, which is exactly what Mr Livingstone has been doing, then it is difficult to avoid the label of hypocrite, which is how the *New Statesman* has described him.

That is the question

Much debate, north of the border, about the form of words that could set in train Scottish independence.

Commentators vary between the simple yes/no and one that suggests a kind of multiple choice.

Whatever the answer, conclude constitutional experts, simplicity will be key.

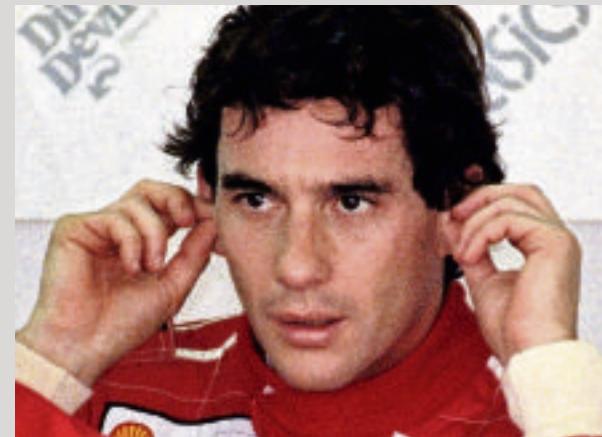
Which is why, I imagine, that Mayor of London Boris Johnson will not be invited onto any committee to find the appropriate question.

He laid out the question of the London mayoralty thus last week: "Do you want to go back to the high taxing, car hating, outer London borough ignoring, taxpayer funded Chateauneuf Du Pape drinking, bendy-bus fetishism, of newt fancying, tax dodging former incumbent of City Hall or do you want to go forward with a sensible, moderate, Conservative administration of London that conserves what scarce resources we have and puts them to the benefit of the city by investing in transport infrastructure?"

And r-e-s-t.

Pig sick

So just how annoyed were *The Guardian*, do you think, that their lavish Three Little Pigs marketing campaign was upstaged by another reworking of the story – by the earwormers at Go Compare?



Ayrton Senna, subject of a Bafta-award winning documentary

SPIRAL NOTEBOOK

By Giles Broadbent

Sporting life

By coincidence it was a weekend of sports docs – Senna, the uplifting profile of the racing driver and *Fire In Babylon* about the West Indies team of the early '80s.

They acted as a reminder that sport is one of the few mediums that work effectively as a metaphor for struggle, redemption, rebellion and risk.

Looking forward to *London 2012: The Movie*.

Whole world in his hands

Call me soppy, but this happened: I was on the DLR to work this week when a deluge of school children scampered on at East India, noisily filling seats on their way to South Kensington.

A boy, probably five, sat next to me and craned his neck round to take in the vista – houses, Orbit, Olympic Park, sprawl et al. He tapped me on the shoulder and invited me to look too, which I did.

"It's the whole world," he said, grinning broadly. "The whole world"

What an adventure lay ahead of him, at the Natural History Museum most immediately and then filling all those wonderful days to come.

Listmania World's largest cities

London is a lowly 23rd with 7.5million population – so where is everybody else?

1

Karachi, Pakistan
Pop: 15.5million
The main seaport, financial, industrial and educational centre of the country. The total metropolitan area has a population of 25million.

2

Shanghai, China
Pop: 14.9million
The busiest container port in the world is also a major world influence on finance, technology and transport. One of the fastest developing cities.

3

Mumbai, India
Pop: 13.9million
Formerly known as Bombay, Mumbai is a conglomerate of seven islands built on fishing and now the richest city in India famed for entertainment.

4

Beijing, China
Pop: 12.4million
The name literally means "northern capital" and is the political, cultural and educational centre as well as host of the 2008 Olympic Games.

5

Delhi, India
Pop: 12.1million
Located on the banks of the River Yamuna, it owes much of its prominence to its place on key trade routes. Twinned with London.

Join in the debate online via our Twitter and Facebook sites  
or add your comment at wharf.co.uk updated every working day with breaking news and views

WORKING MUM

By Tabitha Ronson

Youngsters spellbound by the Bard

I was lucky enough to be the plus one of my boss at a special production of *A Midsummer Night's Eve* at the Globe Theatre on Thursday.

I won't go into details about how and why I was chosen but needless to say Young Colleague has been harrumphing in my ear, worming in my boss's, ever since.

The event was to celebrate the Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank programme, a scheme that since its inception in 2007 has seen more than 50,000 students benefit from £1million of free tickets to a Shakespeare production at the Globe.

It was a night where the good and the great got to deservedly take a bow.

It's no mean feat getting 70 per cent of London secondary schools to engage with Shakespeare.

The production was a riot. A contemporary staging in the open-air Southwark playhouse saw the sets of young lovers dressed in modern school uniforms, songs by Adele and Lady Gaga rocking out,

Puck whizzing around on a Micro scooter, and Titania, Queen of the Fairies, looking, and acting, like a cross between Florence And The Machine, and Jesse J.

For two hours, the primarily young audience was held spellbound, absorbed by the lyricism and drama of Shakespeare, savouring the communal experience of theatre.

There were wolf whistles when Lysander flexed his bare-chested pecs; "aaahs" when Hermia lost her pink foil helium balloon; and gasps of wonder when Puck disappeared into a small cabin-size suitcase.

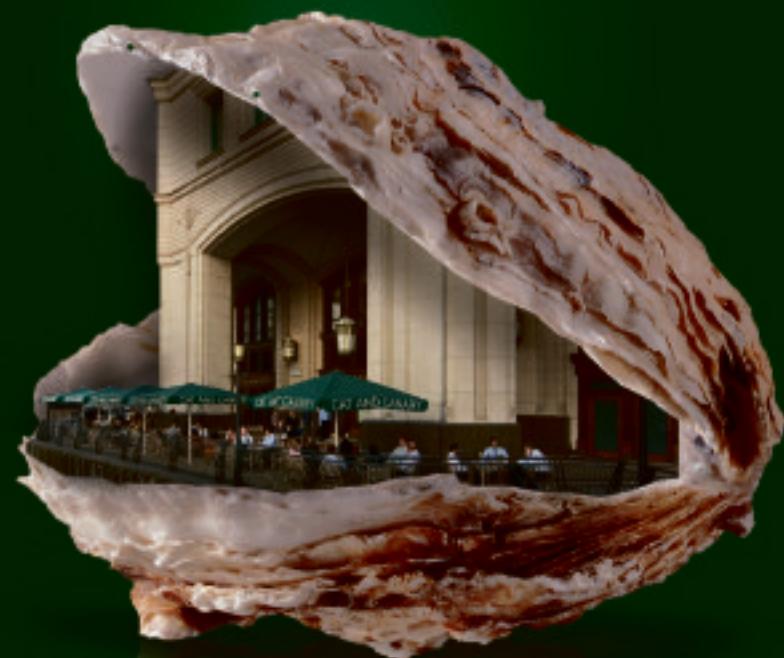
A group of youths standing in the chilled London evening air, watching a comedy from another age, and not the tap-tap of a text, Tweet or Facebook to be heard – The Bard would have been proud.

Shakespeare made accessible, made relevant and, more importantly, made interesting to a new generation, one that, with so many distractions on hand, is so difficult to engage.

It was a joy to be in the Capital on Thursday to witness arguably the greatest writer in history still bringing down the house. *Working mum* hoping the Playing Shakespeare programme will still exist when *Master A* reaches secondary school.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

FRIDAY 16TH MARCH
AT THE CAT AND CANARY



WE DON'T WANT TO
HARP ON ABOUT IT BUT...

THE FIRST 200 PEOPLE TO PURCHASE
A PINT OF GUINNESS ON THE BIG DAY WILL
RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY OYSTER



Food

St Patrick's Day

OPENING

Stuffed birds and spit roast beasts

★ The DLR functions as a major artery pumping humanity between London's financial kidneys on the Isle of Dogs (yes this is a thinly veiled reference to the FSA cleaning the blood of the City's finances) and its heart in the Square Mile.

Wharfers regularly find themselves washed up at the wrong end, casting about for the warmth of a pleasant environment amid the cold streets of Bank or Moorgate.

Fortunately, if you don't fancy the formality of their dining room in Chiswell Street, brothers Ed and Tom Martin have thoughtfully opened **The Jugged Hare**, a gastropub further up the road. As you



might expect from the team behind The Gun, the interior is a blend of contemporary comfort and the glories of London's past.

Fine taxidermy dominates the bar, dining benches are padded with leather and contrast nicely with sleek stainless steel in the open kitchen.

Meat will be spit roasted on the imposing eight-skewer machine daily, while other dishes on the menu celebrate the best of fowl, fish and seasonal vegetables. There's even a Guinness sauce for the black pudding if you feel like popping over there on Saturday.

The venue also boasts a barrel-vaulted event space dubbed the wine room and the most delightful taps in London in its toilets.

Go to thegunnedhare.com.

Jon Massey

RECIPE

Surf clam and wild garlic risotto

The weather has been very mild recently and spring seems to have come early, said head chef at The Gun **Mark Fines**. "One sign of this is the availability of wild garlic. This herb is related to the chive and has long green strands that are almost grass-like. It is well worth seeking out or going to pick your own. You can use it in salads but what I find brings out the best of it is when you are using it to flavour something like a stock or mashed potato or, in this case, risotto."

INGREDIENTS

40g butter, plus extra
1 shallot diced
1 shallot sliced
1 sprig of thyme
1 peeled clove of garlic, lightly crushed
200g Arborio rice
100ml white wine
500ml chicken stock, warm

Big handfuls of wild garlic, stalk removed, roughly chopped
50g butter unsalted
15g Parmesan grated
300g fresh surf clams
Fresh lemon
Olive oil

METHOD

If you buy your clams from a supermarket, they should be cleaned and ready to use. If you buy them from a fish market or local fishmonger however, they may need to be purged before you use them (See end of recipe).

To cook the risotto, first fry the sliced shallots, thyme and garlic until they start to soften without colouring and then add the clams and 50ml of the white wine.

Cover the pan and leave for five minutes for all the clams to steam open. Once they are all open, strain through a colander and set the clams aside. Keep the liquid aside and let it settle so that any remaining grit sinks to the bottom. Take half of the clams and remove the meat from the shells and set aside.

Heat the chicken stock in a saucepan and keep to one side. In another pan gently fry the diced shallot until soft with no colour then add the risotto rice to the pan.

Cook the rice gently for two minutes until it turns translucent then add the 50ml of white wine and the juice saved from the clams, being careful not to pour in any of the settled grit. Slowly add the stock one ladle at a time to the rice and cook it gently until the rice absorbs the liquid. Try not to stir the rice too much or the grains will become broken.



Clams and wild garlic in a risotto

Repeat the process until the rice is cooked to your liking. The classic recommendation is to leave a little bit of a bite to it but I often prefer mine to be cooked through.

To finish the risotto stir in the softened butter and grated Parmesan, then add the wild garlic and clam meat. If it becomes a bit stodgy and thick, add a little more stock.

Decorate the dish with the reserved clams in the shell (reheated in a little pan), some shaved Parmesan and a drizzle of olive oil.

PURGING CLAMS

To do this, first run cold water over the clams for 30 minutes, regularly shaking them up to dislodge any dirt or sand on the shells. Add a teaspoon of salt to the fresh water and leave to stand for 15 minutes. This will encourage the clams to open up and release any sand from within the shells.

After the 15 minutes, wash them again under running water for another 15 minutes to wash away the last of the sand.

The Gun, 27 Coldharbour, Docklands, London, E14 9NS, 020 7515 5222, thegundocklands.com.

GET OUT THE SHAMROCK

Places to go, flavours to try and a little bit of the history behind this day of boozy celebration

On the Wharf



FREE OYSTER

Head down to this Wharf stalwart on Friday, March 16, hail the bar person and order a pint of Guinness – that's all you need to do to receive a free shellfish treat (first 200 people only). Perfect for early starters.

Cat and Canary, 25-27 Fisherman's Walk, Canary Wharf, London, E14 4DH, 020 7512 9187, fullers.co.uk

TWO-FOR-ONE COCKTAILS

The bar staff at Smolensky's have created some St Patrick's Day-themed cocktails and you can get your hands on them for half price. The offer runs all day on Saturday and also 6-9pm on Friday for those starting early.

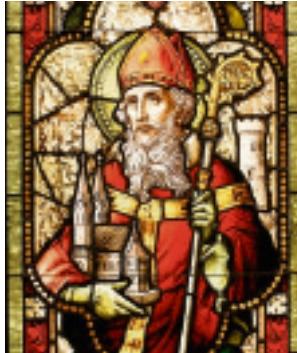
Smolensky's, Reuters Plaza, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5AJ, 020 7719 0101, smolensky.com



History corner

★ First celebrated in 1783 at the instigation of the Irish Protestant organisation the Knights of St Patrick, this holiday's genesis has its roots in a British effort to focus ritual and celebration on a figure who appealed to both Roman Catholicism and the Anglican church.

St Patrick is perhaps most famous for supposedly driving the snakes from Ireland although his story is closely bound up with the arrival of Christianity in the country. He used the three-leaved shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity and allegedly carried a stick



of ash that sprouted leaves when he embedded it in the ground while preaching.

His holiday is always held on March 17 and the first procession to mark it in Dublin was guarded mainly by Protestant volunteers.

Although still a religious celebration in Ireland, elsewhere St Patrick's Day has expanded to become an often secular celebration of Irish culture.

Those taking part typically wear green clothing and eat and drink Irish produce – the latter has its roots in the lifting of Lenten restrictions for the duration of the holiday.

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Sarah's Wonderful Honey by Irish firm Mileeven Fine Foods. Available from Selfridges, £3. selfridges.com.



Irish flavours



Connemara Peated Single Malt Whiskey is light golden in colour and boasts a smooth sweet taste and complex peat flavours. Available from Waitrose, £26.99. waitrose.com.



Coole Swan Superior Dairy Cream and Liqueur is the only Irish cream liqueur that includes single malt Irish Whiskey and real chocolate. Available from Fortnum and Mason, £20. fortnumandmason.com.

Pandora Bell's Honey Nougat with Hazelnuts is produced by a small boutique firm in the west of Ireland. Available from Selfridges, £5.49. selfridges.com.



Looking past the darkness to alternatives

While the majority of revellers will probably opt for a cool, creamy pint of Guinness (the whole event looks more and more like a marketing gimmick each year), there are other stouts if you're not concerned where your brew hails from:

SCOTCH CONNECTION

Innis & Gunn's offering, pictured, delivers more than a hint of the Emerald Isle, a Scottish stout aged in Irish whiskey barrels. That the two countries are most famous for brewing the exact mirror of its components does nothing to diminish this stout's delicious complexity.

Irish Whiskey Cask, 7.4%, £3.99, innisandgunn.com.

CAPITAL FLAVOUR

Created in Greenwich, Meantime Brewery's London Stout was voted one of the world's 50 best beers in 2008 and it's still going strong.

London Stout, 4.5%, £1.99, meantimebrewing.com.



stout solution



Discover Greenwich's best kept secret...

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— OPEN DAILY FROM 10AM -11PM —

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& special bookings in private
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Women seeking men

Guys Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people.
Send : **CHATUP018** To : **65125**
(T&C's below)

LADY early 60's, likes the arts, country walks, sens eduated, cultured gent for possible romance. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **384961**

ALICE 18yr old tall blonde carefree student, looking for exciting male 18-30 for good times only. ACA. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387107**

HII I'm Jo, petite, pretty, fed up with own company, seeking male to help me get back into the swing of things, for uncomplicated fun times together. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387103**

DEBBIE slim outgoing approachable attractive lassie, 33yrs, GSOH, sporty, looking for non serious fun male for friendship, maybe more. Any age/looks/status. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387101**

LONELY young widow, lovely smile, looking for love, romance, flowers and lots of TLC. Age unimportant. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **374432**

KEIRA 34yr old very attractive naughty female, fed up of staying in alone, looking for likeminded naughty boy for fun times. Can be discreet. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **384055**

KIM 37, slim blue eyed blonde, divorced with no ties, very discreet, looking for a genuine, convenient friendship/more. Status unimportant. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **384049**

STEFF 32, slim, hazel eyes, long hair, curly size 10, likes cosying up, cuddles, tickles, sick of being lonely and bored, not looking for complications just love. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **382159**

MAXINE 53, attractive, 5ft 2ins, slim, likes most things, seeks kind, caring, affectionate guy, 48-56 for LTR. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **386259**

NIAMH slim attractive female, well travelled and body confident, seeking mature male who can handle a real women. Or at least thinks he can. ACA. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **384051**

HONEST sincere caring lady, 40's, looking for over 40ys N/S romantic honest sincere gentleman with GOSH for friendship, possible LTR. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **371809**

TARA charismatic, optimistic Irish entrepreneur, sensual, attractive, intelligent, seeks genuine male to spoil, enjoy good times and let just take it from there. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **383121**

WARM loving young girl seeks mature male who is free in the evenings for no strings adult fun. Status unimportant. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **376398**

NINA black beauty, classy 21, loves to have lots of fun, seeks older man who is willing to come up with a few new ideas for adult fun times. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **381361**

CURVY attractive, intelligent black lady, 45, seeks male of similar age, any nationality with conscience, caring, considerate ways. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **389886**

CURVACEOUS attractive, confident, professional lady, 55, seeks educated, well spoken gent with good manners to share good times with, N/S. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387401**

JANE 42, 5ft 2ins, petite, size 14, blonde, pretty, bubbly, likes literature, walks, fine dining, seeks successful gent, 42 plus to enhance life. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **385573**

KERRY 26yr old discreet attractive fit female who has been alone for far too long, looking for male 30-65yrs for convenient friendship and more. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **375765**

VAL compassionate outgoing female with a big heart and no preconceptions just looking for love with similar minded male. Call me. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **383155**

TALL busty female, endless legs, enjoys wild side of life, seeks confident male to try new things with. Can accommodate. Age/status unimportant. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **376772**

CONFIDENT fun female bored of spending time alone, looking for fun man to share lots of laughs and good times. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **370177**

BLACK woman, 40's, caring profession, average build, home owner, funny, reliable, caring, seeks white male of similar age, professional, honest and funny for LTR. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **386921**

CURVY lady, size 18, 52, seeks honest, decent male, 40-50 for lasting relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387343**

CARING romantic old school lady, seeking old school type gent, 45 plus for friendship, possible relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387249**

NAUGHTY black nurse, free and fun loving, seeks sexy male for off duty fun and games. Discretion assured. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **373624**

LOVELY tall slim nurse, very caring and fun but missing that va-va-voom! Seeks adventurous male who's up for fun times. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **379557**

MARINE 53, attractive, 5ft 2ins, slim, likes most things, seeks kind, caring, affectionate guy, 48-56 for LTR. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **374159**

YOU do have to watch the quiet ones! Full figured sensual female, no ties, seeks similar male for some quiet times in together. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **371354**

BUSTY young blonde, 22, endless legs, loves dressing up. Imagine... we could have such fun together! Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **373120**

WANT to have some fun? Slim brown eyed, sensual female, no ties, plenty of good ideas, seeks adventurous, naughty man. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **375204**

SULTRY dark eyed blonde, longs for adventure and excitement with broad-minded man, perhaps you can help? ACA. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **375208**

SIMONE black 32, likes travel, music, animation, books, dancing, seeks tall white male, 22-42 for serious, loving LTR and friendship. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **381783**

VOLUPTUOUS brunette, gorgeous green eyes, hardworking but lonely, seeks romantic mature male to share a glass of whisky with and snuggle up to. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **375210**

21YR old female, dark hair, hazel eyes, confident, likes music, seeks male for relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **384041**

ATTRACTIVE affectionate, romantic female, 51, likes home life, seeks stocky/medium build, genuine male, 47-57 for 1-2-1. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **384010**

LYNDA very attractive female, open transport and willing to travel, seeking similar natured male for extra circular activities. Must be discreet. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **368649**

DEBBIE dark haired passionate classy, discreet female looking for professional intelligent male wanting mutual companionship. Can accommodate. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **380441**

FUN flirty female 35yrs looking to let her hair down seeks easygoing N/S guy for a casual no strings relationship. 30-65. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **368001**

MARGARET 64, from Ghana, tactile, likes most things, looking for male, 64-75 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **381929**

MARION 38 slim, sporty, fun with good personality, loves travel, holding hands and caring for people. Seeks genuine male, no time wasters. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **386485**

LOVING tactile female, no ties, would love to be seduced by a fun loving, mature male. Looks unimportant. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **369106**

ATTRACTION Capricorn female, good sense of humour, mid 40's, N/S, likes most things, cinema, meals out, pubs, looking for genuine N/S white male for friendship maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **334685**

SARA slim tall blonde bombshell, loves dancing, walking in the rain, WLTM genuine male loves life as much as I do. ACA. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **384047**

FEMALE 50's, outgoing, looking for gent, 60-70 for friendship. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **384193**

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MIXED race male, 43, seeks tall, Christian lady, 32-37 for LTR. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **390202**

MEDITERRANEAN man, 44, tall, slim, dark hair, honest, GSOH, likes travel, music, cinema, seeks beautiful, honest girlfriend. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **386359**

GENTLE affectionate Englishman, 56, professional, seeks kind attractive female, no kids, any nationality for love, adventure and marriage. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **360463**

OUTGOING male, seeks attractive female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **390188**

ASHLEY looking for fun loving relationship with reliable female. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **390174**

ATTRACTIVE black professional male, caring, honest, many interests, seeks confident professional female with GSOH, any nationality, 28-35 for relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387465**

CARING tall, professional man, 56, likes arts, cinema, theatre etc, seeks intelligent, kind female, any age/ethnicity for love/relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **372115**

HANDSOME white male, medium build, 59, easygoing, considerate, seeks nice lady for friendship, 40-65. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387441**

MALE 50's, seeks cuddly lady, size 16 plus, 40 plus for fun times. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **386949**

ATTRACTIVE 39y old romantic male, likes keep fit, lonely and in need of lady to look after my heart. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **385311**

BLACK male, 48, romantic, caring, seeks lady, any nationality, N/S, honest, fun loving for lasting relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **385721**

MALE lonely, likes most things in life, seeks female, 55-65. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387419**

TERRY 6ft, slim, fit, young 62, solvent, generous, seeks vivacious, discreet lady for adult fun and games. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387409**

PAUL 49, white seeks female of any age/colour/nationality. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387407**

MALE late 50's, seeks slim female, 50's, must be caring and lively. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387405**

SINGLE professional, good looking male, 5ft 7ins, medium build, 52, seeks female for discreet fun times. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387361**

GENT 65, medium build, sophisticated, seeks older female for discreet friendship. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387353**

ATHLETIC black muscular male, seeks bootilicious curvy, voluptuous female for adult fun. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **381197**

MICHAEL tall, 18, fit, likes walks, seeks female. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387309**

ATTRACTIVE dark skinned 27yr old male, seeks pretty lady for fun times. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **390074**

STYLISH handsome, funny, English male, 54, graduate, professional, seeks beautiful goddess, 35 plus, any nationality for LTR. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387283**

PETER 47, 6ft, dark hair, blue eyes, slim, seeking female for relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387243**

ROGER 5ft 6ins, 50, genuine, seeks female up to 50, genuine for LTR. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387233**

BUILDER 42, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, seeks lady for romance. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387233**

FIT handsome, English male, 54, professional, OHAC, likes to travel, seeks beautiful Goddess, 30-40 caring and considerate. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **386699**

HANDSOME ex professional ice hockey player, 5ft 11ins, sporty, looking for a woman not a girl. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **385955**

DIVORCED dad, 52, caring, sensitive, likes pubs, meals out, walks, seeks female to enjoy life and chat on the phone with. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **385039**

HANDSOME single white male, 51, 6ft, boyish good looks, likes pub, photography, football, dancing, seeks attractive female, 20-45 for 1-2-1 long lasting friendship. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **381605**

MIKE divorced dad, 52, caring, sensitive, likes pubs, meals out, walks, seeking someone to enjoy life with, chat on the phone. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **375469**

COLIN 48, stocky, bald black knight, seeks white female, 30-50 who is tactile and loving for weekends away, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **374581**

STYLISH generous, honest, handsome male, seeks female to pamper and spoil with lots of adventures. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **385051**

IRISH male, 38, professional, slim, attractive, 5ft 11ins, seeks attractive, slim lady, 25-40 with GSOH, intelligent and romantic. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **383217**

Men seeking men

JOHN bi male, 60, good nick, own hair/teeth, seeks convincing TV for fun times. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387295**

KEVIN 34, 6ft 2ins, blond hair, medium build, toned, young boyish good looks likes nights out, sports, holidays, seeks similar male, any age for adventurous fun times. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **355984**

OLDER attractive white male, 51, likes most things in life, seeks older, attractive, white male, 50-51 for friendship, maybe romance. Tel No: **0906 500 3729** Box No: **387261**

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travel

2 hours from London

Rimini, Italy

If Rimini, on the Italian Riviera, were to answer one of those teen magazine quizzes, her responses might go something like this: Favourite movie: *La Dolce Vita*, directed by its famous son Federico Fellini.

Favourite pastime: Partying. Favourite colour: Pink.

Three of its favourite things come together once a year for La Notta Rosa – Pink Night – which this year arrives on July 1.

And it isn't just Rimini that gets in the party spirit, washing everything with pink ribbons, pink light and pink fizz. Some 110km of coastline joins in the fun, each town interpreting the theme in its own way but each focusing on shows, music, entertainments and ubiquitous happenings.

I went in 2011 and the first question to ask the locals presented itself without too much difficulty (or Italian). Why pink?

Pink, we were told, is the colour of welcome, of hospitality, of kindness and emotion. Creating a sense of belonging and community.

For a full 24 hours Rimini and its neighbours explore the opportunity for all of the above. Aside from the dazzling fireworks at midnight and the setpiece VIP gathering at Fellini's favourite



Grand Hotel, the events appeared informal and organic.

On every street corner, a band (from brass to hip hop) and along the stretch of sand fairs, impromptu parties, plenty of drink and an intent to keep going for the full 24 hours.

We began our Notta Rosa at a reasonably gentle pace with a meal in the gorgeous Old Fishing Village. Adorning the walls of the homes were murals from Fellini's film and the cobbled streets were perfect for a spot of light meandering.

Some free time ahead of the pink-fest meant a return to some

of the sites (for I have been here before as the gateway to the historic and breathtaking Emilia Romagna region).

The historic squares and churches of the town tell the tale of the influential Malatesta family who dominated during the middle ages who were rich in bloody history and attempted to atone for their ways through architecture.

But such things are for the head. La Notta Rosa is purely for the hedonist, and the heart.

Giles Broadbent
Airport: Rimini.
Flight time: 2 hours.



Jersey, Channel Islands

Jersey is a curious and beguiling blend of different cultures. Most assuredly British but situated sufficiently close to France to possess some Gallic flair.

The island itself is small enough to be able to cater for traditional beach holidays and countryside holidays all within easy reach.

Indeed, much of the interior of Jersey – 45 square miles in all – is unspoilt and protected by stringent planning laws.

Open fields, woodlands, cliffs, trees and hedgerows provide the setting for extensive farmland, producing local crops that find themselves on menus of Michelin-starred restaurants nearby. Cycling is perhaps the best way to find the varied aspects of the island but organised tours and trips – for land as well as sea – are available. And not forgetting spa breaks for those "do nothing" specialists.

The main town is St Helier, one of the 12 parishes of Jersey, and has a population of around 28,000, a third of the island as a whole.

Jersey forms part of the

Channel Islands which also include Guernsey, Alderney, Sark and Herm along with a number of uninhabited islets.

All are British Crown Dependencies and were the only part of the British Commonwealth to be occupied during the Second World War.

Blue Islands operates a direct service to the island from London City and says "we provide a completely honest and transparent pricing policy with no card charges, no baggage charges and free ticket charges" along with complimentary food and drink.

Airport: Jersey.
Flight time: 1 hour.

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A WELCOME DIFFERENCE

Dublin, Ireland

■ Dublin is a medieval city steeped in history and culture, yet it has become known for its youthful energy and party-capital status.

The city has 1,000 pubs and the Temple Bar area, south of the River Liffey, has become synonymous with the legendary "craic" of fireside singing, Guinness and good times, albeit a little overpriced.

A visit to the Guinness brewery tells the tale of the famous stout.

The city revels in its literary history – James Joyce's *Ulysses* – and has a rich cultural history. WB Yeats, George Bernard Shaw, Oscar Wilde and Jonathan Swift worked here, while Trinity College holds *The Book Of Kells*.
Airport: Dublin.
Flight time: One hour.



The broad boulevard runs from the Place de la Concorde in the east, with its Obelisk Of Luxor, to Place Charles de Gaulle in the west, which is the location of the Arc de Triomphe.

This famous street offers cinemas, cafes, specialty shops and is considered "la plus belle avenue du monde".

The Eiffel tower may have been derided by the French on its arrival but it has become the city's most famous landmark.
Airport: Paris – Charles de Gaulle.
Flight time: 1.5 hours.

Madrid, Spain



■ The capital of Spain enjoys good weather for much of the year and is famous for its cultural and artistic heritage with the world-famous El Prado museum at its heart.

Madrid's royal history is a constant theme of the capital. The Spanish Empire was vast and sprawling and the status of kings required palaces and cathedrals of equal standing.

The climate dictates the daily life of Madrid with a siesta around midday for a couple of days and then plenty of nightlife when the sun goes down which sees the natives party until the early hours.

Clusters of ethnic groupings bring a cosmopolitan air – and cuisine.
Airport: Madrid Barajas.
Flight time: 2 hours.

Copenhagen, Denmark

■ Often overlooked as a destination because of its northern (ie, chilly) outlook, Copenhagen is something of a hidden gem.

The people are effortlessly kind and speak English better than we Brits.

The home of Hans Christian Andersen has plenty of stories to tell. The three most famous attractions in the city are:

The more than 100 year old amusement park Tivoli, the statue of The Little Mermaid, and the free town of Christiania.

With a history that dates back to 1043 the city is full of historic landmarks. Visitors should visit Amalienborg Palace, do a canal tour or shop on Stroget.
Airport: Copenhagen.
Flight time: 2 hours.



Edinburgh, Scotland



■ If austerity Britain is looking for a "staycation" this year, then Edinburgh might just squeeze into the parameters.

August is block-booked as the entire world decamps north for the festival and the fringe, but the rocky Scottish capital is more than just face-painting and one-man shows.

The medieval Old Town

and the Georgian New Town were listed as a Unesco World Heritage Site in 1995 and there are more than 4,500 listed buildings in the city.

The castle sits high on a rocky outcrop overlooking a metropolis that was at the heart of the Scottish Enlightenment and home to an intellectual elite.
Airport: Edinburgh.
Flight time: 1.5 hours.

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Focus Mother's Day

Going out

Fresh Ideas



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Le Pont de la Tour
Butlers Wharf, Shad Thames
leponddelatour.co.uk.

PRESENT SORTED

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Marriott
West India Quay
marriott.com.

FREE FOOD

Mum eats for free. Book a Sunday roast for at least three people and pay nothing for mum's lunch. She will also get a goody bag containing chocolates and vouchers.

Vinopolis
Bank End, London Bridge
vinopolis.co.uk.

TRADITIONAL

Sunday lunch with a Bloody Mary for £25. Expect roast beef and all the trimmings – ideal for mums who like Yorkshire pudding.

Tompkins
Pan Peninsula Square,
Canary Wharf
tompkins.uk.com.

PRESENT SORTED

Keep It Mum meal on the Wharf for £22.95/£25.95. Two or three courses on a set menu and a glass of Prosecco, hopefully on the terrace in the sunshine.

Smollensky's
Reuters Plaza, Canary Wharf
smollenskys.com.

SPA SURPRISE

Unwind Together Spa voucher, £150. 90 minute treatment, a glass of bubbly, box of chocolates and day pass to Virgin Active spa.

Four Seasons Canary Wharf,
Westferry
fourseasons.com.



La Festa Della Mamma hamper, £25.95
Carluccio's
Reuters Plaza, Canary Wharf
carluccios.com.



Tulip Scarf, £18
Fat Face
Canada Place Mall
fatface.com.



Miami flower cushion, £12
Next
Canada Place Mall
next.co.uk.



gift guide

Q&A

Will working on an exercise ball get rid of my pot belly?

Not necessarily – your pot belly is probably down to too much food, too little exercise and, to a lesser extent, poor posture (if you stand with your back arched and knees locked, you're automatically sticking your tummy out).

Have a look at your belly. If you've got any layers of fat covering your abdominals reduce portion sizes, cut back on snacking and high-cal add-ons and then whittle away fat with plenty of aerobic exercise.

Then think about mastering the exercise ball to tone that area.



FITNESS WITH LAURA WILLIAMS

Get the look: Jennifer Love Hewitt

The 33-year-old actress likes to keep in touch with her feminine side as she keeps fit. And her method is an excellent way for new mothers to shift those extra pounds. **How she does it:** The star of *The Client List* loves to pole dance as a hobby and for a workout. She said: "It's a great way to get in touch with your sexuality too."

Do it for yourself: Pole dancing has increased steadily in popularity over the last few years as women continue to look for fun (and foxy) ways to tone up.

Scores of women are now mastering the art of twisting and gyrating around a metal pole with some even having equipment set up in their own homes. I've sniffed

» Tip of the week

Celebrity advice: Sporty Cameron Diaz has this to say about exercise: "For me, it's a big part of keeping mind and body together. I love getting my heart rate up. I love challenging myself."

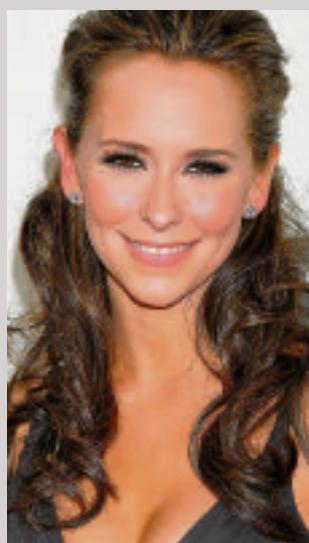
at pole dancing as a workout in the past and I still maintain that in an ideal world it should be done in addition to other fitness routines

such as aerobic work and weight training. But if you're one of the many people who has no intention of setting foot on a gym floor, it's better than nothing.

Fans of pole dancing maintain that you can really see the benefits particularly in the arms, thighs and buttocks burning up to 400 calories in just one session.

If you're going to give it a go, make sure you're sporting bare legs for a good grip and take some high heels along to the session as well as your trainers.

Probably the most upmarket pole dancing classes, which focus on fitness and technique as much as anything else, are to be found here – poledancingschool.com.



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monsoon.co.uk.

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Sport - P66-68



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Mother's Day lunch is served between 12PM-3PM on Sunday, 18th March, 2012

Images



1
German fashion designer Karl Lagerfeld.

REUTERS
Benoit Tessier
FRANCE



2
Morning commuters are silhouetted as they walk through Grand Central Station.

REUTERS
Staff photographer
UNITED STATES



4

3
Visitors stroll through the Geneva Auto Show.

REUTERS
Valentin Raurand
SWITZERLAND

4
A creation by Lagerfeld for his fall/winter 2012-2013 show for Chanel.

REUTERS
Benoit Tessier
FRANCE





4

A meadowlark perches on a grave.

REUTERS
Marcos Brindicci
FALKLAND ISLANDS

5

Greco-Roman wrestlers compete at the European Wrestling Championship.

REUTERS
Ivan Milutinovic
SERBIA

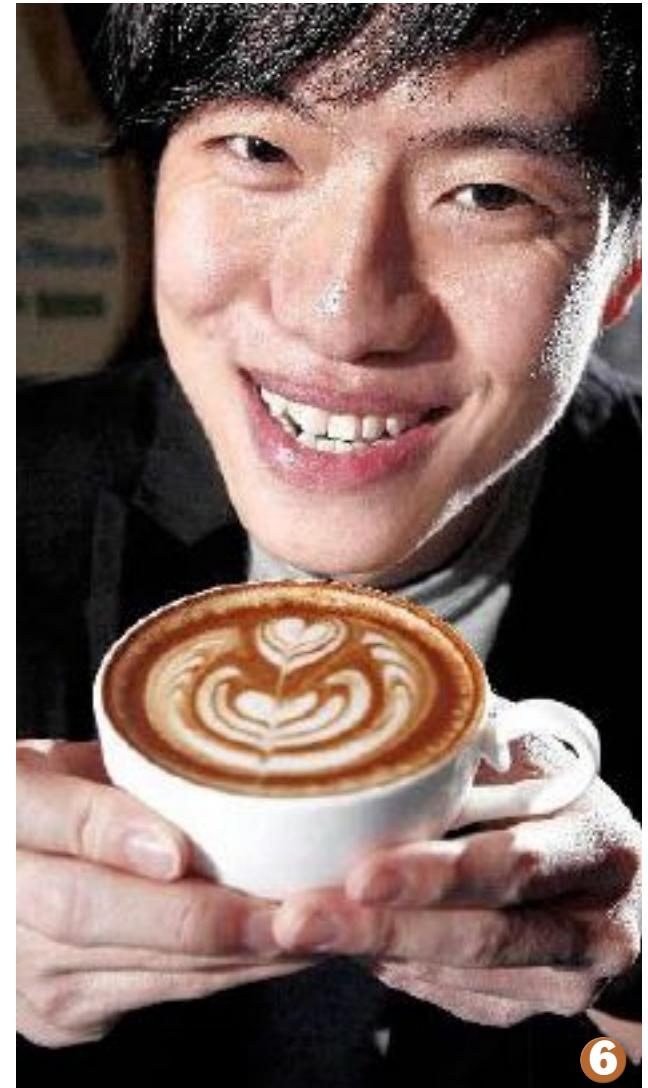
6

Yeung Yiu-fai poses at the Coffee Fest New York Latte Art Championships at

REUTERS
Carlo Allegri
UNITED STATES



5



6

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Stars

With Claire Petulengro

AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 19

For more call 0905 817 2070
If you think you know what you want, think again. The stars are about to show you what fabulous opportunities are open to you in the long term.

PISCES

FEB 20-MAR 20

For more call 0905 817 2071
You may have to alter your plans to fit in with the wishes of others. Don't worry, your time will come and now you can ask for more than you'd planned.

ARIES

MAR 21-APR 19

For more call 0905 817 2060
A special journey is forecast. A demanding event is liable to put a strain on your resources. There appears to be a lot of pressure on you now.

TAURUS

APR 22-MAY 21

For more call 0905 817 2061
Prospects look more promising at last where work is concerned and you now have something definite to aim for. Look for favourable influences.

GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21

For more call 0905 817 2062
Joint projects should be particularly successful. Travel brings news of someone who hasn't been a part of your life for a very long time. Think back.

CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 23

For more call 0905 817 2063
A past experience should help you to cope with a difficult situation. You've done a lot of growing up over the last three months. Cancer and it shows.

LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23

For more call 0905 817 2064
You can have feelings for someone from your past, but that does not mean that you can or should get back with them. Look to the future, not back Leo.

VIRGO

AUG 23-SEPT 23

For more call 0905 817 2065
Don't be shy to put forward suggestions. If you don't put them out there, how can anyone ever know what it is that you want to do or what you can offer?

LIBRA

SEPT 24-OCT 23

For more call 0905 817 2066
Some sort of excitement is indicated in connection with someone in your surroundings. An outside influence could affect your working life. Don't let it.

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 21

For more call 0905 817 2067
If you've been thinking about making changes, this is an excellent time to start. You have the stars behind you and close ones believe in your clever schemes.

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 22-DEC 22

For more call 0905 817 2068
Make sure you look as good as possible as it could bring about a new romantic attachment. Things you buy for work point to your true talents.

CAPRICORN

DEC 23-JAN 20

For more call 0905 817 2069
Family and friends are likely to take up more of your time than usual as you celebrate some good news in the life of someone you care very deeply for.

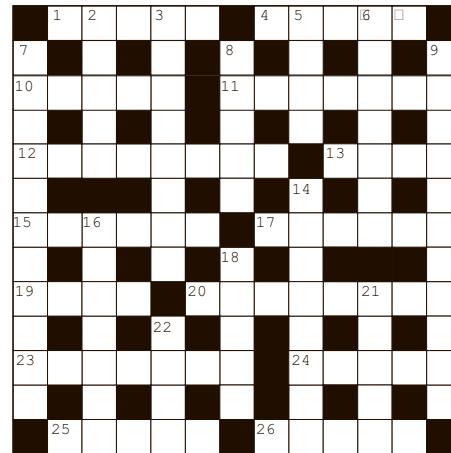
Face in the crowd



Are you this week's Face In The Crowd? Each week we send our snapper out onto the estate to capture a face who wins a main course and a cocktail at the Marriott West India Quay's Manhattan Bar. If you are this week's Face, phone 020 7510 6055 for instructions on how to claim your prize



Crossword



ACROSS

1. Christmas hymn (5)
4. Chasm (5)
10. Hangman's halter (5)
11. Booze (7)
12. Pertinent (8)
13. Scheme (4)
15. Beer type (6)
17. Savage (6)
19. Rain heavily (4)
20. Beekeeper (8)
23. Area of fruit trees (7)
24. Coach (5)
25. Permanent end of life (5)
26. Traffic light colour (5)

DOWN

2. Circular coral reef (5)
3. A general survey (8)
5. Male rabbit (4)
6. Learned person (7)
7. Undergoing a test period (2,9)
8. Swoon (5)
9. Furtive (11)
14. Calamity (8)
16. Dark viscous syrup (7)
18. Potatoes (5)
21. Senseless (5)
22. Stop (4)

Sudoku

EASY

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 9 | | 4 | | | 6 | 2 |
| 4 | 7 | | 2 | 1 | 3 | | |
| | | 3 | | 9 | | 4 | |
| 8 | | | | 5 | 9 | | |
| 7 | | 9 | 4 | | | 3 | |
| 3 | 5 | | | | | 1 | |
| 2 | | 1 | | 9 | | | |
| | 4 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 8 | | |

HARD

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | | 4 | | 7 | | 6 | |
| | 3 | 5 | | 1 | 4 | | |
| 7 | | | | | | | 9 |
| | 7 | | 8 | | 3 | | |
| 5 | | | | | | | 4 |
| | 2 | | 5 | 7 | | | |
| 9 | | | | | | | 1 |
| | 8 | 6 | 9 | 5 | | | |

GUIDE

In order to complete Sudoku, readers should fill in each of the grids so that every column, row and 3x3 box within the squares to the left contains the digits 1 to 9. No repetition of digits is allowed within any of the sequences. Why not time yourself and see whether you can beat your best with next week's puzzles?

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The Wharf's Sudoku puzzles are supplied by sudoku-puzzles.net

For more free brainteasers including Futoshiki, Nonogram and Samurai, go to the website

Digest 2012

Cost

Games likely to go over budget

MPs have expressed alarm that the £9.3billion budget for the Olympic Games might be £2billion short on covering expenditure.

The public accounts committee, under the chairmanship of Barking MP Margaret Hodge, pictured, also raised concerns about the legacy and the dangers of the stadium becoming a white elephant.

Mrs Hodge said: "We are particularly concerned about the significant increases in the security bill. It is staggering that the original estimates were so wrong."

999

Police hoping crime may fall in summer

POLICE are hoping that levels of crime in London will fall during the 2012 Games, the London Assembly were told.

Metropolitan Police Assistant Commissioner Chris Allison pointed out that overall levels of crime had fallen during the 2010 Vancouver Winter Games and the 2000 Sydney Summer Games.

Victoria Bowrick AM, chairwoman of the health and public services committee, said: "It's reassuring to see the sheer scale of planning and preparation the emergency services have put into managing the impact of the Games and how they have taken on board lessons from previous host cities."

Transport

RMT considers £850 bonus for working

LONDON Underground workers have been offered a one-off Games bonus of £850.

The Rail Maritime and Transport union has decided to consider the offer for the 18,000 staff affected but has yet to end its dispute.

General secretary Bob Crow said: "Clearly moving from offering

nothing to the latest offer of £850 is a massive shift."

"The offer will now be considered by our reps and by the full executive before we make a formal response."

The union had rejected previous offers.



Face time

Euan Burton

■ **Sport:** Judo.

■ **Biography:** Born March 31, 1979, in Ascot, Berkshire. Attended University of Edinburgh.

■ **Form:** Burton disappointed in 2008. He's up against tough opposition in his weight class (81kg).

■ **Sporting dates:**

European Championship Bronze, 2005, 2007, 2010. World Championship Bronze, 2007, 2010.

Beijing 2008, 7th.

■ **He says:** "I'm probably the world's best conditioned athlete, in my weight category, but I want to keep pushing the boundaries. I'm not the most explosive guy but to become more so takes a long time and the advantage minimal. Instead, day-in day-out I'm trying to come up with technical answers to problems I face."

■ **Olympics:** "If you're going to stand at the top of the podium you've got to beat everybody that's in front of you. People know that I can and I know that I can, but I don't think people are expecting it, because I'm not world and Olympic champion."

NUMBERS

2

Billions of pounds overspend on Games

100,000

Tickets available for Hackney Weekend

12m

Youngsters reached by Inspiration programme



Euan Burton faces a tough challenge against experienced opponents



Flying the flag

Service personnel from the Army, Navy and Air Force have been chosen to raise the flags at London 2012 Team Welcome Ceremonies and Victory Ceremonies. Some 176 service men and women will take part as flag bearers in 100 Team Welcome Ceremonies and 805 Victory Ceremonies.

OmG

■ McDonald's has been granted an exemption to London's local food sourcing goals, getting only 10 per cent of chicken from Blighty. The admission from Lord Coe raised eyebrows at the London Assembly.

'It's a bit rich'

Greenwich councillor Mick Hayes on the £10,000 a month the council will pay for a box at The O2 to which it will not have access during the Games

■ Hopes were revived that the Olympic Games could pave the way for a revival of the British economy. Well, at least in Huddersfield that is the case where Marshalls, famed for making paving stones, announced a 32 per cent increase in profits thanks to £10million from Games contracts. Fly the flag.



■ The entire NHS hospital build programme of 2000's cost £11.4bn. Olympics now set to cost £11bn
@sandratowers59

■ So the Olympics, a two week event, could cost us £11bn, while libraries and swimming pools are closing. Well done Seb!
@david_conn

■ Olympics minister Hugh Robertson says all Team GB members should know national anthem. Er, why? Truly, truly pathetic intervention
@ianchad_tele

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Volleyball**Docklands fall in tough five-setter**

LONDON Docklands fell to their fourth five-set defeat of the season following an inconsistent performance against London Knights.

That was Knights' third victory over Docklands this season and is a severe blow to their promotion hopes. However, a shock Solent loss means it's still mathematically possible for Docklands to finish in second place and clinch a play-off against old rivals Sheffield.

**Rugby****Blackheath notch up bonus victory**

AN outstanding second half performance saw Blackheath collect five tries to record their fifth successive bonus-point victory when they beat Tyndale 34-17.

National League One takes another break next Saturday with the final round of the Six Nations.

THE FANS' ROAR

By Ian Toal

**We are lacking consistency**

We cannot seem to follow up one good result with another.

After beating Peterborough 3-0 away last week we travelled to Nottingham Forest knowing a win there would be a big step towards our Championship safety.

Unfortunately we went down 3-1 at the City Ground leaving us seven points above relegation. At this rate our safety will go down to the last few games.

It was a disappointing result but not a bad performance. We could have been a couple of goals up but failed to take our chances, hitting the woodwork three times.

We have to take confidence in the way we played and know that if we reproduce that performance in our remaining games – and improve the defending – then we will be fine.

Sadly Liam Trotter looks like he will miss further matches after just returning.

He had a reoccurrence of his quad injury meaning that he had to be subbed

at half time in what was his first game back after three missed games.

This will probably give Josh Wright the chance to establish himself in the side and earn a contract for next season in the process.

It has been pleasing to see Darren Ward come back and put in a couple of solid performances. He might

“We will need a good performance against Saints

not be first choice now but it is important to have players in the squad who can respond when needed. Recent signing Shane Lowry will learn a lot from training alongside Wardy.

Our home form has been a real disappointment this season but this Saturday gives us a real chance to lift ourselves and put that record right when we face title-chasing Southampton.

We have had the full set of results against the Saints this season. We lost 1-0 at St Mary's back in August in the League then drew 1-1 at home in the FA Cup 4th round before winning the replay 3-2 away in a great performance.

We will need to reach that level of performance to get a victory and will have to be on top of our defensive game to keep out star striker Rickie Lambert who was named Football League Player of the Year.

We expect our boys to lift their games though and respond to what should be a decent crowd.

Injured Lions midfielder Tamika Mkandawire had something to be pleased about as he was named the PFA Player in the Community for 2012 for the Football League.

Tam has been an ambassador for the "Giving Youth Violence The Red Card" campaign which has been getting the message across to youngsters about the dangers of carrying knives and guns.

WEEKEND FLUTTER

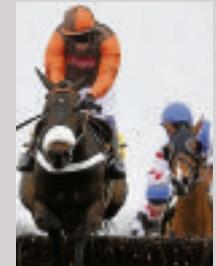
WITH THE RACING POST

BETFRED GOLD CUP

This year's renewal of the Betfred Gold Cup looks one to savour with the legend that is Kauto Star trying to win the trophy for a third time at the grand age of 12.

Twice this season he has got the better of his younger rival Long Run, pictured, the winner of this contest last season. The extra test of stamina here over 3m2 1/2f swings the balance slightly in Long Run's favour, but given the way Kauto Star excels in the jumping department, he could easily expose the flaws in Long Run's profile and it makes set for a cracking contest.

Win, lose or draw, Kauto is firmly placed in racing folklore, and if Ruby Walsh can have the veteran jumping the last fence with even the slightest chance of victory, 65,000 spectators will be going bananas. Not a race for a bet, but sit and watch what should be a truly memorable spectacle.

**ALBERT BARTLET NOVICE**

Charles Byrnes deals in quality not quantity when he sends one across the Irish Sea, and Sea Of Thunder looks good each-way value in what is usually a gruelling test of stamina. He was running away with a Grade 2 at Cheltenham earlier in the season when he fell at the last, and with a clear round this time, he can be right in the mix, with the likelihood of good ground being a massive bonus for the seven-year-old. Ed Quigley

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WEST HAM

Morrison may be in frame for team debut



Carlton Cole of West Ham jumps to head the ball against Doncaster

RAVEL Morrison, the troubled midfielder offloaded by Manchester Utd for £1million, could make a start in a crucial tie against Leeds at the weekend.

He has yet to make a competitive appearance for West Ham but netted twice in a 2-0 win at Brentford – for the Development Squad.

He was an unused substitute in last Saturday's 1-1 game with Doncaster – the third home draw in a row for the Irons whose promotion-chasing season has stalled.

However Jack Collison believes West Ham are still in a great position to gain promotion from the Championship.

The No.10 insists the Hammers still have their destiny in their own hands when it comes to regaining their place in the Premier League.

But he admitted that he and his team mates needed to finish off teams – and be more clinical in front of goal – if they are to resume their charge.

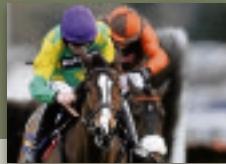
"We know as a group that we need to do better in front of goal," he said. "It's not just one person but a whole group thing. I should have got us the points really which would have dug us out of a massive hole."

"We're going to keep working and keep improving and we can go on a nice little run and we can be where we want to be."

"We've got a really good squad and we have some really good strikers. It's up to us as midfielders to create the opportunities for the strikers to put them in the net. Hopefully we can put a little run together and get the confidence going and that starts next week."

"It's still in our hands, which is obviously what we want."

Meanwhile, West Ham have agreed a loan for Portsmouth's goalkeeper Stephen Henderson.



CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL

Still chance for a winning bet say our Racing Post tipsters **P67**

This moment is my inspiration

SWIMMING

That never-say-die attitude is what has made Roberts a Paralympic legend

Rob.Virtue
@wharf.co.uk

There have been some spectacular Olympic moments over the years but the image of a gallant loser is what inspires one of Britain's greatest Paralympians.

David Roberts, who was diagnosed with cerebral palsy at the age of 11, started swimming competitively to help deal with the condition and has gone on to win a staggering 11 gold medals in three Games.

For him the sight of British sprinter Derek Redmond finishing the race in Barcelona '92 despite snapping his hamstring shows the true meaning of the sport.

11
Number of golds that David Roberts has won

"It's an iconic moment and says to me what the Olympics is all about," said Welshman Roberts. "The never-say-die attitude and the fact the father went on the track to be with his son."

It's an attitude Roberts displays himself and one that's put him on the brink of Games history.

His golden haul is level with Tanni Grey-Thompson's record and puts him one away from being Britain's most successful Paralympian.

It's a mission he is determined to complete this summer.

"I've won a gold in every Games I've been to so it will be nice to win a gold in London at home," said the 31-year-old, who was speaking at an event sponsored by Jaguar Academy of Sport, mentoring up-and-coming British Olympic and Paralympic prospects. "That's my goal. But first things first, I need to qualify."

"Each Olympics is different but the home Olympics is the ultimate. Once you've done an Olympics you dream of doing one in your home country. There is no greater privilege than competing in front of your home crowd."

His success in the pool has seen him become something of a standard-bearer for the Paralympics – even



Derek Redmond finishes his race in 1992 despite snapping a hamstring



Swimmer David Roberts

addressing the Human Rights Council in Geneva to discuss the work ongoing in Britain to promote disabled sport.

Calling himself "just a boy from the Valleys" he's immensely proud of his personal achievements but what he

sees as even more important is the championship's rise in popularity.

"My first Games in Sydney was the watershed moment for Paralympics," he said. "We got one hour a day television coverage, which doesn't seem like a lot but we suddenly got a window to the public so they could see what we did and how good we were."

Sydney may have been the watershed but Beijing was confirmation of a whole new fanbase.

"We came back from Sydney and there were 30 to 40 people there to welcome us home and it was lovely. But we came back from Beijing and it took me five hours to get through the airport there was so many people there. We were made up."

"Paralympic athletes are now becoming household names when at the start of my career I could never have imagined that happening."

CHARLTON

Powell fury as team get hit by four in first half

Rob.Virtue
@wharf.co.uk

CHRIS Powell vowed to stick by his team after a horror show first-half against Notts County on Saturday that saw them 4-0 down at the break.

Despite a second-half fightback the Addicks ultimately succumbed 4-2 against the play-off hopefuls to result in their second defeat in a week at The Valley following a 2-0 reverse against Colchester United the previous Tuesday.

After Saturday's defeat Powell said he was furious with the performance but went on to defend his table-topping side.

"They're my team and they've been absolutely outstanding this season," he said. "If I take that first half away then they've been a team, my players, my squad, I've been very proud of."

"It was good they showed everyone they can respond [in the second-half] but it was a big ask. Whatever level you are at 4-0 is hard to come back from but they did show they can respond to it and the remaining 10 games they will."

But Powell hinted he felt some within the club could have fallen for the belief the side – still a healthy nine points clear of second placed Sheffield United – were home dry at the top of the table.

He warned he would not allow for complacency.

"I don't want anyone thinking – players, staff or supporters – that we're over the line because that's crept in a bit," he said. "We're not there. We've got the points tally we've got because we've worked hard to get them and played some good football."

"We've dug in when we had to and had a plan A, B and C but you can have as many plans as you want, if you play the football we did in the first period then you're not going to win a football match."

Charlton travel to Scunthorpe this weekend before hosting Yeovil Town at The Valley on Tuesday night.



Boss Chris Powell

Golden girls

NEWHAM'S Christine Ohuruogo inspired the GB team to win women's 4x400m gold at the World Indoor Athletics Championships in Istanbul.

The last leg was taken by former Poplar schoolgirl Perri Shakes-Drayton. Team GB picked up a record nine medals.

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